

Elioſto LIBIDINOSO:

Deſcribed in two Bookes:

VVherein
Their imminent dangers are declared,
who guiding the courſe of their life by the com-
pane of Affection, either daſh their Ship againſt
moſt dangerous ſhelues, or elſe attaine the
Hauen with extreame
Preiudice.

Written by IOHN HYND.

HOR: ART: POET.

*Aut prodeſſe volunt, aut delectare Poëta,
Aut ſimul & iucunda, & idonea dicere vita.*



AT LONDON,
Printed by Valentine Simmes, and are to be ſold by
Nathaniel Butter. 1666.

Eliso

BIDINO

Described in the Book

VV herein

...ing the context of their life by the com-
... of Affection, either daily and ship again
... and a new world, or of a new world
... with extreme
... in the

Whitney Lane H

For: Art. 100
... and the ...
... in the ...



AT LONDON,
Printed by Valentine Simmes, and are to be sold by
... 1666.


To the Right Honourable, and truly
ennobled Lord, Philip Herbert, Earle
of Mountgomery, and Baron of Shurland, &c.

John Hind wisheth all happinesse that either
this world affoord, or the heavens
conteine.

 Vtie bindeth, and Affection compelleth
me to demonstrate vnto the worlds view,
how deeply I stand ingaged vnto your
Honor. My debt, I must confesse, is great,
and my vnsufficient estate of ever deserving
the least fauors which have beene extended vnto mee,
vrgein the presentation of *ELIOS TO* vnto your
aspect. I desire but your favourable acceptance, and
good opinion; wherewith protected, let the envious
pursue me with never so virulent, and austere construc-
tions, I shal both contemne their persons, and disdeigne
their iudgements. I know my owne worth, and am pri-
vie to their ignorance: where the wise and discreet sit
as Censors, there do I presume of favour: But where
fooles give in their suppositions, there *loves* pro-
pitiati^on must be implor'd, vnto whose
benediction I commend you
euermore.

Your Honours in all dutie:

JOHN HIND.

Ad Lectorem.

Non hic Thefauros diuitis ingeni,
Facunda lingua neque varios sonos,
Sed fortè insulsos accipies tocos,
Quos dum compono, nescia quatenus
Extendit crimen: parte precor mihi
Erranti, (Lector Candide) tu potes.
Crescet succedens fertilis seges.

Iohannes Hind.

Verses in praise of the Booke.

Where Vertue takes his habitation,
There all the Graces like *Pediseque*,
Doe burnish and adorne the roome: The mind
Then being simply pure, is capable
Of eu'ry noble forme, and sendeth forth
The Christall streames of pleasing Eloquence:
Peruse this Worke.: Here hath Dame *Arise*
Inclos'd herselfe, and Art as swift, as is
The speedy *Hind*, doth strue to beautifie
Each Line and Leaf with Learnings attributes.
Reade then: and Errours which are obuius
" Interpret mildely. The great'st enemy
" That Science hath, is obuse Ignorance.

Alexander Burlacy Esquire.

ELIOTO LI- BIDINOSO.



IN the Ile *Cyprus* there reigned a king called *Amasias*, whose fortunate successe in warres against his foes, and bountifull curtesie towards his friends in peace, made him to be greatly feared, and loved of all men. This *Amasias* had to wife a Ladie called *Philoclea*, by birth royall, learned by education, faire by nature, by vertues famous, so that it was hard to judge whether her beauty, fortune, or vertue, wan the greatest commendations. These two linked together in perfect love, led their lives with such fortunate content, that their subjects greatly reioyced to see their quiet disposition. They had not beene married long, but Fortune (willing to encrease their happinesse) lent them a sonne, so adorned with the gifts of Nature, as the perfection of the child greatly augmented the love of the parents, and the joy of their Commons: insomuch that the men of *Cyprus* to shew their inward joyes by outward actions, made Bone-fires and Triumphes throughout all the Kingdome, appointing Iustes, and Turneis, for the honor of their yong Prince: whither resorted, not onely his Nobles, but also diverse Kings and Princes,

B

which

which were his neighbours, willing to divulge the friendship which they bore to *Amasias*, and to win fame and glorie by their prowesse and valour. *Amasias*, whose minde was fraught with princely liberality, entertained the King, Princes, and Noble-men, with such submisle courtesie, and magnificall bountie, that they all saw how willing he was to gratifie their good willes, making a generall feast for his Subjects, which continued by the space of fortie dayes: all which time the solemnities were kept, to the great content both of the Lords and Ladies there present. This triumph being ended, the assemblie tooke their leave of *Amasias*, and *Philoclea* their yong sonne (who was called *Eliosto*) was nursed vp in the house, to the great joy and content of the Parents. Fortune envious of such happie successe, willing to shewe some signe of her inconstancie, turned her wheele, and darkned their bright sunne of prosperitie, with the mistie cloudes of mis-hap and miserie. For it so happened that the King and Queene purposing to take the ayre, had appointed a day to hunt in one of their Forrests to sport themselves, where having a Stag in chase, through their hot pursute, *Philoclea* fell from her Steed, and was sore bruised, who being by her guard speedily raised, was immediately carried to the Pallace doore, much weakned and wearied, with sustaining such an intestine conflict: at length such was the boysterousnesse of deaths continuall battrie, (like vnripe fruit which abideth manie pluckings before it fall) she striving with often plunges, in her last and latest gaspe, gave vp the ghost. This sodaine event so appalled the Kings senses, that he sunke from his seate in a swoone, so as he was faine to be conveyed by his Nobles to bed, where he lay by the space of three daies without speach. His commons were as men in despair, so diversly distressed, there was nothing but mourning and lamentation to be heard throughout all *Cyprus*: their vertuous Queene bereaved of hir life, their King and Sovereigne in great hazard: this tragicall discourse of Fortune so daunted them, as they went like shadowes, not like humane creatures: yet somewhat to comfort

comfort their heauie hearts, they heard that *Amasias* was come to himselfe, and had recovered his speech, who as in a fury reached at a Rapier to haue killd himself; but his Peers being present, stayed him from such a bloodie act: perswading him to thinke, that the common wealth consisted on his safetie, and that those sheepe could not but perish, that wanted a sheepeheard, wishing that if he would not live for himselfe, yet he should haue care of his Subjects, and to put such fancies out of his mind, sith in sores past helpe, salues, do not heale, but hurt, and in things past cure care is a co- rasive. With these and such like perswasions the King was overcome, and began somewhat to quiet his mind, so that as soone as he could go abroad, he caused his wife to be embalmed, and wrapped in lead, erecting a rich and famous Sepulchre wherein he entombed her, making such solempne obsequies at her funerall, as all *Cyprus* might perceiue that he greatly did bewaile her death. *Amasias* notwithstanding would once a day repaire to the tombe, and there with watrie complaints deplore his misfortune, coveting no other companion but sorrow, nor any other harmony but grieve. But leaving him to his dolorous passions, let vs come to *Eliosto* his sonne, being the chiefe cause of the description of this historie. This *Eliosto* being fourteene yeares old, was no lesse finely shaped, then sweetly demeanoured, a pattern of such perfection, as is seldom found in earthly substance. But sith I cannot fully expresse his feature, I will rehearse vnto you the description of him couched by a Cyprian pen man in a brieue Ode, a conceit well knowne to all Sheepe- heards, and by them oft recited.

The description of *Eliosto* in
an Ode.

CAnimede the Idean Boy,
Second glory of the day:

Eliofo Libidinoso.

*Phrigiæ wonder, fathers ioy,
Loves content, Loves wishfull pray.*

*Blyth Adonis, Beauties treasure,
Venus darling, Fancies fire:
In whose lookes were heav'nes of pleasure,
Fruit too fowle of faire desire.*

*Both these would, though both were rare,
Both the mirrors of their time,
Blush if they should make compare,
With this wonder of our clime.*

*In whose eyes Love lodg'd his darts,
But he did with glances aime them,
That he might subdue all hearts,
And his owne by conquest claime them.*

*Such his face, such is his stature,
Locks resembling burnisht gold,
That his like astonisht nature,
Framde not since of earthly mould.*

*Nature at her selfe amazed,
O what influence then did guide her!
Such in want such worth was blazed,
Worth which heav'ns have since denied her.*

*May not then this lovely boy,
For he is a lovely creature,
Well be tearmd our Cyprus ioy,
Blest in bearing such a feature?*

*Well he may, and if not he
Who shall then our wonds be?*

Such

Elisio Libidinoso.

3

Such and so many were his perfections, that he could not fully describe them, much lesse I discover them: he was affected of many, and admired of all; Shepherds doated on him, Lasses droupt for him, all liked him; for who could not love him? It is the custome of the inhabitants of *Famagosta*, to rest in some shade when summers scorching heate annoyes them: being shrowded from the Sunne, they spend the time in discourfing vpon their owne, or their fellowes fortunes, Shepherds I meane, men of their owne profession, whether native in *Cyprus* or no, as in memorizing the worth of *Philoslea*, praising the perfections of *Phyllis*, lamenting the losse, commending the loyaltie of *Amyntas*, mourning for the death, yet misliking the disdaine and pride of *Amaryllis*, pittying the distresse of the forlorne Shepheard, the vnhappy admirer, though happy herauld of her worth. But if *Elisio* by hap came by, as oft he did, they would abruptly breake off these discourfes, and follow him greedily, gazing on so glorious an object. Nor was this vniformity of affections onely in humane hearts; for the rurall powers were touched with like simpathy. *Pan* sighed to see him, remembring by him his *Syrinx*, though of another sexe. The *Hamadriades* flocked to view him, wishing him one of their troope: *Faunes*, *Sylvans*, *Satyres*, seldome seene before, were oft beheld by men, while they left the halowed groves, to gaze in the open fields on that eye-Syren, alluring not with the sound, but at the sight. But as no extreame is durable, so too soone to breake off the knot of this exceeding comfort, see what ensued.

Amasias having now through tract of time, sufficiently digested his sorrowes, lived in his Court, no lesse accompanied with the most honourable, then beloved of the most vertuous; where finding that humors were no honours, and time lost could never be recovered, thought good at the earnest perswasions of his Peeres, to enter againe into the lists of marriage: which thing being knowne, many Princes of *Ionia* and of *Europe*, desirous to insert themselves into so royall a kindred, and to have interest in so noble a family,

offred their daughters with large portions. But onely the Prince of *Lemnos* ſped in his ſute, whoſe aliance the King accepted, as being a man noble in deed, graced with ornaments which Nature might afford, or Vertue challenge. His daughter alſo named *Cleodora*, was a creature endued with ſuch ornaments of the body, graced with ſuch qualities of the minde, that it ſeemed Nature and Vertue concurring in one, had conſpired to make her a peerleſſe prooſe-peece of their vnited perfections; and though Fortune fretting at their favours ſo largely beſtowed, ſought to croſſe their courtesies with her cruelties; yet could ſhe not at that time, blemiſh the bright ſhining worth of ſo famous a wonder. But as a ſmall clowd in a cleare day may ſomewhat ſtame, though not wholly ſtop the ſunnes light: ſo Fortunes malice, did rather darken then drowne her merits, in whoſe Ivory browes, Chaſtitie ſate enthronizd, as gardian of her lookes, Modeſtie teinting her cheekes with a vermillion die of Virgin-redmaiden bluſhes, emblazoned her a map of mirrors. Maieſty which beautie claimed, birth challenged, love commanded, guided hir geſtures with ſuch decent proportion, as *Luno* wanted in the pride of her glorie, and *Minerva* in the prime of her pompe. Theſe gifts, theſe glories did ſo vnluckily (as the ſequell will manifeſt) enchant, enthrall, enforce *Amasias*, that having ſcarce viewed her, hee vowed her his owne: ſuch deepe impreſſions were wrought in his affections. To be brieſe, the parties were reſolved to give Love his right, and ſo married they were honourably.

For that purpoſe the Cyprian King ſent Heralds to all the Iles adjacent, and Provinces ſituate in the maine of *Greece*, which publiſhed in his name, leave and liberty of acceſſe to all whomſoever, eſpecially ſtrangers of account which did repaire to his Court, and were preſent at his nuptials, and honoured him in ſuch princelike exerciſes, as did beſt beſeeme the worth of that intended ſolemnitie. Beſides a troope of meaner perſons, the moſt worthy Heroes of *Greece* appeared at the appointed time; and being pre-

sent at the ceremonies of *Hymens* rights, gave honourable testimonie of their performance.

Forthwith many honourable sports and deedes of chivalry were exercised; in which, *Eliosto* was cheefe challenger, suted in purest white, mounted vpon a milke white Courser, richly caparrasoned. These second solemnities thus finished, the Lemnian Prince and other strangers departed, bruiting an honourable report of the Cyprian Courts royaltie.

This married couple for two yeares living in a league of vnited vertues, safely floated in the seaes of securitie, and bathed themselves in the streames of blisse; they were not daunted with any dread, because they saw no present danger; they thought that the sea being calme, there could come no tempest; that from the cleere aire, could ensue no stormes; that quiet ease was not the mother of discention, and that, were Fortune once tuned, in the strings could never bee found any discord. But they at length tried, though by haplesse experience, that when *Nilus* filleth vp his bounds, enfueth a dearth; when the Angelica is laden with most seede, then he dieth; when musicke was heard in the Capitoll, then the *Romans* were plagued with pestilence; when *Circes* proffered most guifts, she pretended most guile; and that when Fortune had deprived them of most care, then she meant to crowne them in the greatest calamitie: so she thinking to give them the Mare, began thus to proffer the Checke. |

There chaunced to bee in his Court attendant vpon a Noble woman, a proper peece, named *Florinda*, who by birth was but the daughter of a Knight, but by beautie seemed to be a heavenly creature. Now the destinies so ordered the matter, that the king by chance cast a looke vpon this gorgeous goddess, and at the first view was so vanquished by vantage, that he thought his life no longer pleasant vnto him, then when he was in her sight, and failed not daily familiarly to frequent the Mistresse companie, for the Maides cause. And having attempted her chastitie, by shewing her his great good will, by bestowing on her gifts,

gifts, by large promiſes of preferment, and many other meanes; nevertheles, miſſing of his purpoſe at that time (for as yet ſhe ſtood at defiance with incontinencie) in penſive perplexitie, fell at parlee with himſelfe, to this purpoſe. Why *Amafias* (quoth he) art thou ſo ſqueamiſh that thou canſt not ſee wine, but thou muſt ſurfeit? Canſt thou not draw nie the fire and warme thee, but thou muſt with *Sayrus* kiſſe it and burne thee? Art thou ſo little maſter of thy affections, that if thou gaze on a Picture, thou muſt with *Pigmalion* be paſſionate? Canſt thou not paſſe through *Paphos*, but thou muſt offer incenſe to *Venus*? Doſt thou thinke it injurie to *Cupid* to looke, if thou doſt not love? Ah, fond foole, know this, fire is to be uſed, but not to be handled; the Baaran flower is to be worne in the hand, not chawed in the mouth; the precious ſtone *Echites* is to be applied outwardly, and not to bee taken inwardly; and beautie is made to feede the eye, not to fether the heart. Wilt thou then ſwallow vp the bait which thou knoweſt to be bane? Wilt thou hazard at that, which can not be had without harme? No, ſtretch not too farre, wade not too deepe, violate not the rites of matrimonie, impeach not thy faith plighted to *Cleodora*, uſe beauty, but ſerve it not, ſhake the tree, but taſte not of the fruit, leſt thou find it too hard to be diſgeſted.

Why, but Beautie is a god, and will bee obeyed, Love lookeſt to command, not to bee conquered: *Juno* ſtrove but once with *Venus*, and ſhe was vanquiſhed: *Jupiter* reſiſted *Cupid*, but he went by the worſt; it is hard for thee with the Crabbe to ſwimme againſt the ſtreame, or with the Salamander to ſtrive againſt the fire: for in wraſtling with a freſh wound, thou ſhalt but make the ſore more dangerous. Can Beautie (fond foole) be reſiſted, which makes the gods to bow? Love himſelfe yeilded to the feature of *Psyche*, and thinkeſt thou thy fancie to be of greater force? But *Amafias*, if thou wilt needes love, uſe it as a toy to paſſe away the time, which thou mayeſt take vppe at thy luſt, and lay downe at thy pleaſure. Love! why *Amafias* dooſt thou dreame, whome ſhouldeſt thou love? *Florinda*: what thy

thy servant? no sure thou art not so fond. And with that, as he vittered these words, such thoughts, such sighes, such sobs, such teares assailed him, as he was stricken dumb with the extremitie of these hellish passions, scarce able to draw his breath for a good space, till at last recovering his senses, he fell to his former sorrow in this sort.

I ever heretofore thought a Princes life to be voide of contention, and that they had alwayes passed their time in pleasure without molestation, but now I see we are as soone exposed to sorrow as the meanest subject we have. Likewise before this, I was of opinion, that the number of friends, abounding in riches, continuing in health, and such like things which pertain to the bodie, were sufficient to attaine to felicitie in this life: but now I see, it is the mind that maketh mirth, and stirreth griefe; yea, the contented minde is the onely riches, the onely quietnesse, the onely happinesse. Good God! how vnflavory seeme those sweet meates vnto me, wherein I was wont to delight? how vnpleasant are the sports wherein I was wont to take pleasure? how comber some is the companie, which was wont to content me? no game pleaseth me, no triumphs, no shewes, no hawking, no hunting, yea, nothing vnder the Sunne doth solace me. And would I know the cause why I have not a contented mind? The exquisite parts of *Florinda* do so diversly distract my minde, that onely her sight is sweet, onely her societie is comfortable, onely her presence is delightfull vnto me: the reason is, in her the Fates have fixed my happinesse; in her the heavens have laid vp my felicitie; her companie I must injoy, and without it I must die. Herevpon betaking him selfe to his meditations, hee framed a Letter to *Florinda*, to this effect.

Amasias to the fairest Florinda, heath.

SVch, and so extreame are the passions of love (*Florinda*) that the more they are quencht by Disdaine, the greater flames are increased by Desire; and the more they are galld
C with

with hate, the more they gape after love: like to the stone *Tapozon*, which being once kindled, burneth most vehemently in the water. I speake this (the greater is my griefe) by prooffe and experience: for having my heart scorched with the beames of thy beautie, and my mind inflamed with thy singular vertue, neither can thy bitter lookes abate my love, nor thy extreame discourtesie diminish my affection. No, *Florinda*, it fareth with me, as with the hearbe *Basill*, the which the more it is crushed, the sooner it springeth; or the pure spice, which the more it is powned, the sweeter it smelleth; or the *Cammomill*, which the more it is troden with the feete, the more it flourisheth: so in these extremities, beaten downe to the ground with disdain, yet my love reacheth to the top of the house with hope. Sith then, *Florinda*, thy beautie hath made the sore, let thy bountie apply the salve; as thy vertue hath caused my maladie, so let thy mercie give the medicine; repay not my constancie with crueltie, requite not my love with hate, and my desire with despite, lest thou procure my speedie death, and thy endlesse infamie. Thus hoping thou wilt have some remorse of my passions, I attend thy friendly sentence, and my fatall destinie.

Thine ever, though never thine, Amasias.

As soone as he had written his Letter, he dispatched a Messenger as privily as might be, who speedily delivering his Embassage, was willed by *Florinda* to expect an answer; who ruminating vpon the contents of his Epistle, being incited by sordid preferment, she thought by his approved loyaltie, that her maydenly modestie was sufficiently strayed: and therefore, after a sort, was at length willing, after long warding and awarding his waster, to affoord him the vennie. For who knowes not (quoth she) that this Hawke which comes now so faire to the fist, may to morrow check at the Lure. Having said this, shee wrote as hereafter followeth.

Florinda

Florinda to Amasias, healeth.

THou hast followed fast, *Amasias*, and kept me long at a bay, which maketh me willing now at length to obey, and yeeld a branch of Lawrell, as ensigne of thy conquest; for this thy meede doth merite both Nobilitie and Courtesie. Certes, thy feature is neither crooked nor crabbed; as for thy beautie, I will not, or at least I cannot signifie how gracious it is in my sight; but scarce any cold *Satyrist* can avoyd burning at the influence of so warme a Sunne: both these bids me a base, and I am readie to meete thee in the midway, when loe Reason steps in, and stoppes me running, intercepting my rashnesse, lest too soone I might curle my incepted course. If I have beene recklesse of thy good will I repent me, if ruthlesse through cruell speeches, I recant them, as one loving now that which of late I loathed, and desiring that which even now I despised; which as often as I call to minde, I cannot but blush to my selfe for shame, and fall out with my selfe for anger. But the purest Diamond is to be cut before it be worne; the Frankinsence is to be burnt before it be smelled, and Lovers are to be tried before they be trusted, lest shining like the Carbuncle, as though they had fire; being toucht, they proove passing cold: for the mind by triall once scowred of mistrust, becommeth more fit ever after for beleefe: so that *Amasias*, as I have pined thee with bitter Pilles, I will now pamper thee with sweet Potions; as I have galled thee with crueltie, I will heale thee with courtesie. But I would you should thinke that it is not advancement that winneth me thus willingly to your will, for I know it is odious, but it is your exceeding love towards mee, (O noble Prince) that linketh my liking with yours; it is your incomparable courtesie which forceth mee to yeeld the fort of my faith into your hands. For as the Sunne, the higher it doth ascend in the Firmament, the more heate it doth extend to the earth: so Vertue and Courtesie, in the more high and prince-ly

“ly person it is placed, the more force it hath to winne the
 “willes, and bind the hearts of the people to embrace it. To
 conclude, short will bee thine abode with me, and more
 sharpe thine abandoning of mee: then shall I be left like
 fee'y *Sappho*, or forlorne *Phyllis*, a game to my foes, & a shame
 to my friends. The Ivie with her embracings suffocateth
 the Elme; the kind Ape with her folding armes killeth her
 yong ones; but if thou according to thy soothest, and smoo-
 thest protestations lovest me, be not causer of my casualtie.
 And thus committing my life and living into your hands, I
 attend thine answer, and rest more thine then her owne.

Florinda.

This Epistle came to *Amasias* as acceptable as metamor-
 phosed *Jupiter*, creeping into *Danae's* lappe: for surelie this
 was gold to the King, as that a golden shower to *Danae*.
 After this, there passed many pleasant lines betweene them,
 neither did *Amasias* write so pithily, but *Florinda* answered
 as pretily; for if he were false, she was fervent; if he could
 not digest delay, she could not but detest the cause that
 kept him away: each performed their devout orizons for
 their luckie loves, each thought Fortune to be frowning,
 and the Fates adverse; they tearmed *Venus* verie sleepe,
 and sluggish, because she heard not their praiers, or else was
 over-hard in not granting their requests. Thus sitting
 together in the sympathy of their paines, and almost sinking
 in the sea of their passions, they desired a thing no lesse dif-
 ficult then dangerous, hard to be acted and of hazard to be
 effected: they both wished a parley, which could not bee
 compassed without some inconvenience: for never was
 the dreadfull Dragon such a gardian to the *Hesperides* Gar-
 dens; never *Argos* so charie of his injunction, as *Florinda's*
 Mistresse was warie in watching her Maid: but to what
 end? She might asloone end her life, as amend her leawd-
 “nelle. Neither was this fault peculiar to this particular one-
 “ly, but the folly of all men in generall: it is as well others fu-
 rie,

rie, as it was her frenzie, to over-looke that which maugre
their beards will away. No, no, they may not ſtraine that
ſtring to their owne tune, which being ſtubburne will not
once ſtretch; they may not reſtraine her madneſſe, who
regardeth not her owne chaſtite, were they as quicke ſigh-
ted as Eagles, as ſubtile as Serpents.

Nou mentem ſervare potes licet omnia claudas,

Omnibus excluſis intus adulter erit.

Though all things you can tame, and captivate,

And bring in compaſſe of ſubjection;

Yet will the Mind diſdaine rebuke, and hate

What ſhall ſuppreſſe her fond affection.

Danaë would neither regard the diligent watch which
attended vpon her, nor the brazen Caſtell that warded her,
but became more looſe both of her lips and lap, then *Pene-*
lope aſſayed by many ſutors, yet obſerved by no overſeers.
The Colt moſt rageth, the more hee is reined vp; the river
then ſtreameth, the more it is ſtopped, and an unchaſt woman
narrowly watched, becomes more wilfull, ſhe is ſharpeſt ſet, when ſhe
is ſureſt beſet, yea, when ſhe is moſt hindered from vice, ſhe moſt ha-
ſteth vnto vanitie. For *Florinda* perceiving ſquint-eyed miſ-
truſt to keepe ſentinell at her Chamber doore, and quicke-
ſented ſuſpition to ſollow her footing, ready to trip her leaſt
treading awrie, hanged her witts on the teinter-hooks, till
ſhe might racke out ſome ſleight to hoodwinke her Mi-
ſtreſſe with a Cowes biggin. To be brieſe, the time of their
meeting was appointed on the third day following, but
two dayes ſeemed ſo long and loathſome, ſo tedious, yea,
and ſo intollerable, that they thought two yeares to have
paſſed before the prefixed houre was preſent. Which *Ama-*
ſia finding true, to deceive the tediousnes of the day, would
go to bed with the Lamb, and riſe with the Lark; yet would
the night ſeeme lothſome: he would ſpend the day in cour-
ting Ladies, and diſcourſing of love; yet hee deemed everie
minute a month, till *Red-roſe* fingred *Aurora* appearing
with gray haire, all be-dangled with ſilver dew, gave a
watchword to glorious *Phæbus*, who rowſing himſelf from

his watrie Couch, crowning his golden lockes with a Diadem of Chryſolite, mounted vp loſtie *Olympus*, and newly peeped and appeared in our Horriſon, when loe, *Amasias*, pushing at his Miſtreſſe Chamber doore, which by good chaunce flew open, and granted him wiſhed paſſage, ſaw his deareſt *Florinda*, who was then working an handkerchiefe with blacke Silke and Gold: about whose ſnowie necke folding his armes, they paſſed the time away with ſuch delightfull ſports, and new conceyved ioyes, as either their mindes might wiſh to have, or their ſoules deſire to ſee. But *Amasias* knowing time to be beneficiall vnto him, yet not too bountifull; to be large, yet not over liberall, ending delay, and beginning to dallie; firſt he ſet foorth his foote, firſt hee offered to give the onſet and aſſault, neither by force did he firſt endeavour to take that fort, but by faire meanes; he required and requested the fruit of his love and labours: the Gentlewoman waged the matter with words, which indeed are womens beſt weapons, ſaying that ſhee had more care of her credite, and regard of her honor then ſo to ſhake hands with honeſtie; that ſhe never paſſed any ſuch promiſe vnto him, neither did hee ever crave any further curteſie then her company, or at the moſt a kiſſe, whereby finding occaſion, ſhee ſealed the ſame with her bright ſanguine lippes, ſaying that now ſhe had given him his deſired guerdon: to which *Amasias* ſmiling, replied after this maner.

Either my arrivall in this place is ſuſpected, or not ſuſpected; if ſuſpected, certes the outwardmoſt is ſuſpected, if not ſuſpected, neither will this be revealed. Nay cut off my head (quoth he) if now I reape not the fruit of my hope. I, but it is ſinne ſaid *Florinda*. Sinne, quoth he? It is ſinne, not to ſwallow in delights, dangling at our lips: it is ſinne to abſtaine from pleaſure, if that only may preſerve our life: Yet would I not preſerve my life by doing wrong answered *Florinda*. Nay, thy ſelfe earſt diddeſt ſay (quoth *Amasias*) that thou wert mine by right: therefore where are now your weaker reaſons? weak they were God-wote, and ſcarce cur-
rant

rant: but let me ſee whether your ſelfe be as ſtout to reſiſt, as your gentle perſwaſions were ſubſtantiall to make mee deſiſt. This being ſaid, *Amasias*, as it beſt beſeemed *Amasias* offered her gentle violence, and violent gentlenes, which as ſome ſay, ſeldome comes to women vnaccepted: ſhee againe for faſhions ſake combated, but willing to bee conquered; for indeed, ere long, *Amasias* rode in triumph: and which ſome men may maruaile at, he behaved himſelfe like *Hydra*, whoſe neckes pared off with the heads, were renewed with two in each place: like *Anteus* by each fall gathering more force; or as the ſtone of *Thracia*, which dipped in water to be cooled, waxeth moſt fervent. After this *Florinda* feaſted him with as daintie and delicate diſhes, as her ſelfe could deviſe, wherevnto wanted no *Vinum Coſ*, the Whetſtone of his fortitude. Which done, *Amasias* thanking his goddeſſe for his entertainment, they both tooke their leave, as though they had loſt their lives, eſpecially *Florinda*, who often wringing him by the wreſts, with her whiteſt handes kiſſed him as if her heart had deſired to meete with his, and his ſoule to joyne with hers: and thence betaking her ſelfe into a window, like the faireſt garden flowers, which beholding the departure of gladſome *Phæbus* to his purple bed, whoſe being, earſt was their light and life, ſome hanging downe their heades as deprived of all pleaſure, and others more erecting vp their loſtie and leavie creſts, ſtrive to injoy his ſweete ſight ſo farre as poſſible they may: ſo *Florinda* now pearched aloft to poſſeſſe his beloved ſight, as far as her watry eies could ſuffer, and now againe hung downe her head in her boſome, as not able to ſultaine to behold his departure.

Now *Amasias* ever after was ſo wedded to the vaine ſuppoſe of pleaſure, and delight, that his Peeres ſorowed at the courſe of his vnbrideled follies, and his ſubjects groned not vnder the burden of his covetous deſires, but were taxed with the grieve of his voluptuous appetite; for ſuch was the incontincencie of his life, as ſacietie of wanton affections never glutted his minde with content: but as the Serpent

Hydaſpis

Hydaſpis, the more he drinketh, the more he is a thirſt, and as the Salamander, the more he lieth in the fire, the more deſirous he is of the flame: ſo *Amasias* the more hee offended in this intemperate concupiſcence, the more his thoughts were addicted to the vice, inſomuch as everie man did wiſh hee might fall headlong into the Centre of ſome deepe miſfortune.

Wallowing thus in the ſelfe conceit of his wickedneſſe, his wife *Cleodora*, through over much impatience, not ſufficiently commanding his conſtancie, or greatly moderating his affections, began palpably to feele extraordinary paſſions within her to be predominant: For fond Affection like a heady ruler, poſſeſſing the chiefeſt portion of her intereſts, over-ruled her more honeſt reſolutions, at the entertainment of inceſtuouſ luſt. Which when ſhe moſt evidently perceived, for the better effecting of her purpoſe, manifeſted her griefe vnto a damſell, whom ſhee had brought with her out of *Lemnos*, and in whoſe confidence ſhe repoſed much. *Lucilla* (for ſo was the maid named) being vpon a day in her Miſtris chamber, ſeeing that beyond measure ſhe was melancholie, and that her health not a little impeached through ſorrow, ſtrained modeſty, and with theſe words interrupted her mournings.

Ah *Cleodora*, more loved of me then mine owne life, and more deere vnto me then my ſelfe, would God I might be plagued with all earthly diſeaſes, ſo I might ſee thee free from diſtreſſe: how can *Lucilla* be without ſorrow, to ſee *Cleodora* oppreſſed with ſickneſſe? how can ſhe but ſinke in calamitie, to ſee her but once touched with care? alas, vnfold vnto me thy ſore, and I will adde the meanes to apply the ſalve; make me privie to thy malady, and I will procure a medecine. The regard which ever ſince my firſt being with you, I have had of your welfare, I had rather leave it to your conſideration, then with the rehearſall of it, but wearie your patience. Which endeavours of mine, if your Maieſtie ſhall recompence with advertiſement of your griefe, I will not onely ſtudie to procure your contentment by my induſtrious,

ous resolutions, but my ſelfe alſo not a little ſatisfied, ſhall reſt in great ſecurity. Alas (quoth the Queene) it is not vnknowne, not only to vs, but to the whole Kingdome, how my Lord, ſeduced by the flattering allurements of ſtrumpets, hath not onely violated the law of our gods, in prophaning my nuptiall bed, made ſacred by the holy law of matrimonie; but alſo the law of *Cyprus*, which vtterly forbiddeth ſuch diſorder and wanton actions. But ſith in a Monarchie the wills of Princes may bide no checke, but their reaſons (howſoever vnreaſonable) are the principles that may not be infringed, it reſteth onely for me to com- plaine, but not to redreſſe, leſt venturing too farre, I ſet my reſt on the hazard, and ſo deſperately throw at all. What Madame, (answered *Lucilla*) have you no other cauſe to diſquiet your ſelfe, then the fooliſh love of the King? Truly this is a very ſmall occaſion, and a cauſe more then frivolous, after this manner to vex your ſelfe; remove away theſe dolorous paſſions, and endeavour to live joyfully with thoſe, amongſt whom your reputation and credite ſhall be honourable: attending til Time ſhal coole his ardent deſires, and enforce him to change his affections, with this proviſo; that by vnlawfull acquaintance, your honour likewise be not depraved. Indeede, replied the Queene, the whole can with facilitie miniſter counſell to them that are ſicke; but if thou didſt but feele that diſtemperature which permitteth me to take no reſt in my minde, and the cauſe of the anguiſh that doth deprive me of ſence, I am aſſured, that having pittie vpon me, thou wouldeſt otherwiſe comfort me, or elſe help to execute that, which ſhould ſerve for the intire ſolace and contentment of my ſpirit. The King hath led this life a long time, and it is now impoſſible, but by death or extremity of age, he ſhould alter it: in the meane while, I paſſe my time away in vaine, no waies comforted, which maketh my grieſe ſeeme more intolerable. *Lucilla* perceiving without caſting of her water, where ſhe was pained, ſhaped her this reply. For mine owne part Madam, as yet I never had experience of what force Love is: and therefore ignorant of

the disdain and sorrow, which such as you are sustaines yet neverthelesse I verily beleeeve, that the passion both of the one and the other is so great and vnmeasurable, that the surplusage of the alterations that trouble and molest the spirit, is nothing in respect of this inexplicable distresse. But I behold and perceive the imbecility of humane minds, and how soone, through vnlawful desires, they are disquieted; which, with no lesse tranquillitie, are digested in the stomacke and thoughts, then the sea sands, when they are encountred with the tumultuous blasts of powerfull *Boreas*. Ah Madam, where is the great chastitie that made you once more renowned then all the Ladies in *Lemnos*? I beseech you labour to containe your selfe in that honest estimation wherein hitherto you have lived, to the great content, both of your parents, and friends. But if Reason be curbd by incontinency, and that you deliberate to follow the vice of wantonnesse for the accomplishment of your desires, then by all meanes let diligent regard in such sort intimate secrecy, that neither the house from whence you are descended, be dishonoured, nor your selfe merit infamy, or ignominious punishment.

While they were thus talking, a page brought word that divers Ladies were come to visit the Queene, which caused them to surcease their talke. When the Ladies salutations were ended, and *Cleodora* againe left to her cogitations, she could not feelee one minute of such ease as was requisite: for vncessantly she rolled the stone with *Sisyphus*, turned the wheele with *Ixion*, and filled the bottomlesse tubbes with *Belides*: in so much, that when shee could finde no meanes to mittigate her maladie, shee fell into these bitter complaints.

Ah *Cleodora*, ah wretched *Cleodora*, how art thou without reason, which sufferest reason to yeelde vnto appetite, wisdom to sensuall will, and a free minde vnto servile love: but I perceive when the Ivie riseth, it wreatheth about the Elme; when the Hop groweth hie, it hath neede of a poale; and when virgins waxe in yeares, they follow that which belongeth

belongeth to their youth. Love, love, yea but they love, expecting some good hap, & alas, both love and live without all hope: for *Eliosto* is my sonne; and yet if he were not, he liketh not me. Sith then (*Cleodora*) thou art pinched, and hast none to pittie thy passions, dissemble thy affection, though it shorten thy life: For better it were to die with griefe, then to live with shame: The sponge is full of water, yet is not seene; the leafe of the tree *Alpina*, though it be wet, looks always dry; & a wise lover, be she never so much tormented, behaves herself; as thogh she were not toucht. Yea but fire cannot be hid in the flax without smoke, nor musk in the bosome without smell, nor love in the breast without suspicion. Then seeke some meanes to manifest thy love to *Eliosto*, for as the stone *Draconites* can by no means be polished, vnlesse the Lapidarie burne it; so thy mind can by no medicine be cured, vnlesse *Eliosto* ease it.

Thus resolved without longer stay, she called vnto her, *Lucilla* her chiefe attendant, who from her infancie had bin brought vp with her. In this *Lucilla*, shee conceyved her greatest hope, vnto whom she said: *Lucilla*, since I had reason to discern good from evill, thou knowest how I have tendered thee, and how willing I would be to seeke thy preferment, make triall when thou please, so shalt thou be assured of that, which justly thou maist hold in suspence. But leaving these conjuring words, I must (*Lucilla*) commit vnto thy secrecies, a matter of import, whereon my honour and reputation dependeth: for I tell thee *Lucilla*, I have made choyse of thee amongst all those which I may commaund, as of her I love, and have best cause so to doe, having had such societie; else should I rather choose to die ten thousand deaths, then reveale it.

Lucilla which had her whole hope of good from the Queene, hearing her speeches, with teares standing in her eyes, proceeding of joy, for the honour done her by the Queene, protested vnto her by heavens Maker, and what else he framed, to be secret in her determinations, and doe her best endeavour to accomplish whatsoever shee commanded.

manded. *Cleodora* taking her word for current, in whom she never found deceit, said: *Lucilla*, that it is incident to all creatures in their kind to love, I know thy wittes be not so simple, but thou canst conceive; and he that made vs, directeth our likings as best pleaseth him, be it Prince or Beggar, from the highest to the simplest: and he my *Lucilla*, hath linked my liking (albeit extraordinarily) to a most brave Gentleman (on whom I think) if Affection, which is blind, deceive me not, is worthy to be favoured of the most beautiful. To keepe thee with idle speeches, is now no time, having other matters enow whereon wee must discourse; therefore, that thou mayst know to whom my love is intended, *Eliosto* my sonne is he; *Eliosto*, famous for his valour, renowned for his bountie, and admired for his courtesie. He, he, *Lucilla*, is the joy of my heart, and my hearts sole delight, without whom I cannot live, nor I wil not live, neither may I live, such is the service which my heart hath vowed in love vnto him: therefore if thou love me as thou hast professd, by thy industrie seeke to save my life, which cannot but perish in not obtaining my desires.

Lucilla, listning to her discourse, willing to become second in this tragedie, had her braines alreadie beaten in the search of the charge committed vnto her, yet would she not sodainely answer any thing, Considering how displeasing speeches spoken out of time, be to lovers, corasives: yet cherishing the Queene, she requested vntill the next morning respite for answer, which willingly she granted, affying greatly in her, whose judgement above all others she esteemed most sound and perfect: whom to her studie we leave.

Eliosto, by reason of the affable countenance, and courteous vsage wherewith dayly she did gratifie him, had his intrailles so fried with the scorching flames of his mothers beantie (O inspeakable wickednesse!) that his colour was changed, and his strength impaired, and he, through great grieve and extremity of his love, enforced to withdraw himselfe into his Chamber, where casting himselfe on his bed, with a million of carefull thoughts, he determined to seeke
her

her favour, and then, by contrary motions, fearing the successe of his suit, by reason of affinitie, which might give cause of great dislike and disparagement thereof, said :

Ah thrice vnfortunate *Eliosto*, what strange fits be these that burne thee with heate, and yet thou shakest with cold? thy body in a shivering sweate, and in a flaming ice, melting like wax, and yet as hard as Adamant : Is it love? then woulde it were death, for liker it is thou shalt loose thy life, then win thy Love. Ah haplesse *Cleodora*! would to God thy vertues were lesse then thy beautie, or my vertues greater then my affecti- ons; so should I either quickly free my selfe from fancie, or be lesse subject vnto folly. But alas, I feele in my mind fierce skirmishes betweene Reason and Appetite, Love and Wis- dome, Danger and Desire; the one perswaded him to hate the Queene, because his fathers wife, the other constrained him to love her as a friend. If I consent to the first, I end my dayes with death; if to the last, I shall leade my life with infamie. What shall I then do? Ah *Eliosto*, either swallow the iuyce of Mandrake, which may cast thee into a dead sleepe, or chew the hearbe *Carysum*, which may cause thee to hate everie thing; so eyther shalt thou die in thy slumber, or dislike *Cleodora* by thy potion. Tush, what follies are these? Wilt thou with the Wolfe barke at the Moone, or with the yong Gryphons peck against the starres? Thinkst thou to quench „ fire with a sword, or with affection to mortify love? No, no, „ if thou be wise, suffer not the grasse to be cut from vnder thy „ feete, strike while the yron is hote, make thy market while „ the chaffer is to sale.

Eliosto being thus resolute in his opinion, began to cast be- yond the Moone, and to frame a thousand devises in his head to bring his purpose to passe, fearing everie shadow, doubting everie winde, stumbling at the least straw; yet at the last pricked forward by fancie, he purposed not to omit the least oc- casion, which he thought would redound to his content. For- tune, who had long spurned at him with her foote, gave him this oportunitie to raise him, whom she had like to have over- throwne, chauncing to looke out at a window which opened

into a Parke belonging to the Court, he eſpied the Queene, pleaſantly paſſing away the time with her traine of Ladies, which oportunitie he was not willing to looſe, but with all ſuch ſpeed as his faint legs could make, revived by the ſight of his ſweete chafe, with all ſayles ſpread, in ſhort time hee recovered his wiſhed deſire, who was no ſooner of *Cleodora* ſcene, his humble dutie done, and ſhe having requited the ſame, giving him the time of the day, with a moſt pleaſant and friendly countenance, ſhe chalenged him of negligence, whom in two or three dayes ſhee had not ſcene, and leading him politikely, pretending matter of importance, to impart vnto him, from the companie, ſhe broight him neare the ſide of a faire copelſſe, which ſo overſhadowed them, that the Sunne beames could no waies be offensive vnto them, where they might both boldly ſay whatſoever it pleaſed them, without being heard or ſcene of any, whoſe preſence might interrupt their conference, which cauſed her to take oportunitie to diſcuſſe with him thus.

Sonne (quoth ſhe) I pray thee ſay, of the dutie which thou haſt vowed me, and by thoſe ſweete thoughts which are beſt pleaſing vnto thee, what is the Ladie to whom thou haſt dedicated thy love? For love doubtleſſe thou dooſt, thy countenance bewrayeth it, which I have noted with more regard then becommeth mee; yet of care to thee whoſe health I tender, for thy courteſie and good ſervice done, which I would requite in the beſt maner I might; and for becauſe thy looks ſhew that thy heart craveth to be pitied of thy Ladie, let mee know her, who may chance ſtand thee in ſome ſtead; for women may prevaile much with one another.

Elioſto wrapt into a heaven of joyes, hearing the goddeſſe of his devotion, with ſuch favour and kindneſſe to grace him, with a bluſhing countenance ſtanding at the barre before her, whoſe ſentence pronounced, was either life or death, ſayde. Honourable and gracious Madame, That I love I cannot denie, which argueth your ſkill in phiſicke to be great; but if your highneſſe could iudge whoſe love I moſt adore, and love have, and judging, eaſe me, I ſhould have cauſe to ſay, no *Aeſculapius* on the earth whatſoever, might ſtand in compariſon with you
for

for ſkill: I dare ſay no more, fearing to offend.

The Queene all this while gazed on the perfection of her Sonne, as deeply enamored on his feature, as he inveigled with hers; for her eye made a generall ſurvey of his excellent proportion, which ſhe found more exquisite, by how much the more ſhe had bent her liking to love him.

Thus Affection which had aſſailed both their hearts, indued them with ſuch a ſympathy of content, beholding themſelves all alone, that with overmuch joy, they were ſtricken mute, ſo that how much ſoever their hearts deſired, to let each other know their loves, they could not reveale the ſame. In this heaven of happineſſe they had not long been, but a Ladie that attended the Queene, brought her word the King was coming into the Parke, which place hee had choſen to recreate himſelfe, where reſting on a hill that over-peered the great *Mediterraneum*, hee noted how *Phæbus* fetched his *Lauoſtos* on the Purple plaines of *Neptunus*, as if he had meant to have courted *Thetis* in the royaltie of his Robes, the Dolphins (the ſweete conceitors of Muſicke) fetcht their carriers on the calmed waves, as if *Arion* had touched the ſtrings of his ſilverſounding Inſtrument: the Mermaides thruſting their heades from the boſome of *Amphurite*, ſate on the mounting banks of *Neptune*, drying their watrie trefſes in the Sun-beames: hee marked likewise howe *Aeolus* forbore to throw abroad his gueſts on the ſlumbering browes of the Sea-god, as giving *Trizon* leave to pleaſure his Queen with deſired melodie, and *Proreus* libertie to follow his flockes without diſquiet. *Amasias* looking over the champain of *Cyprus*, to ſee if the continent were as full of ſmiles as the Seas were of favours, ſaw the ſhrubs as in a dreame with delightfull harmonie, and the birds that chanted on their branches, not diſturbed with the leaſt breath of a favourable *Zephyrus*. Seeing thus the accord of the land and ſea, caſting a freſh gaze on the water Nymphes, hee began to conſider how *Venus* was faigned by the Poets, to ſpring of the froth of the ſeas, which drave him ſtrait into a deepe conjecture of the inſtancy of love, that as if *Luna* were his loadſtarre, it had everie minute ebbs and tides, ſometime overflowing

ing the banks of Fortune with a gracious looke, lightned from the eyes of a favourable lover, otherwhiles ebbing to the dangerous shelve of despaire, with the piercing frowne of a forward Mistresse.

By this time nights duskie mantle shadowing the earth with a darksome coverture, had bewrayed heavens disguise, and the twinkling starres, whose sight the Sunnes brightnesse doth in the day time obscure, did now plainly appeare, while *Phæbus* reposing in his Palace, waited the dewie-vprising of *Aurora*, so that the King was for that time constrained to desist his walke. In the meane time, *Eliosto*, whose extreames were vehement, after his abrupt parting with his mother, grew so melancholy, as that nothing was able to delight him: so that in outrageous maner, he exclaimed on his misfortune, cursing the tydings bringer of the Kings repaire to the Park, and his tongue, for not revealing his grieve, his Physition being so readie to heare, that despairing of his hope, he was likely to mischief himselfe: yet Reason affirming, That the learnedst Philisition could not discover the disease of his patient, without he shew it, how neare soever he ghesse. Entering further into consideration of her favourable speeches, shaking off feare, like a hardie Souldier, he determined in writing to let her know his love, since he had no hope to meet her againe at the like advantage. Therefore, like the condemned, hoping of pardon, lived *Eliosto*; yet desirous to be resolved, either of comfort, or despaire, he called for pen and ynke, and wrote thus,

*To the onely mistresse of my heart, the most beautifull
Cleodora, happinesse, and hearts content.*

IF *Iupiter* being a God was vanquished by love, and many mightie Monarches have beent forced to seeke the love of beautifull Ladies, I have lesse cause to accuse my fortune, or exclaime against his soveraigntie, who hath framed my heart to like and love your excellencie: how long I have honoured you onely, I omit, and desist to impart the many griefes endured for your sake: Now, as you are by nature pitifull, so vouchsafe

to credite the lines of me your sworne servant, and by your favour, reclaime from the gates of death, my soule, which vpon deniall, is readie to leave her earthly mansion. Therefore peerlesse Ladie, if thou holde the life of thy servant in any regard, grant me thy love, and with thy love, gracious liking; so shall I live to honour thee, or die through thy crueltie. I write not as a Poet, but as a passionate lover of your highnesse: and therefore if thou dislike these lines, attribute the shortnesse of my stile, to my ardencie, which without flatterie, hath delivered the summe of my miserie, and hope shal be by your gracious courtesie mitigated. So attending your answere, either of life or death, I wish thy ioyes never to have end, and my selfe a speedie death, without your liking.

Your Graces, in life most humble, Eliosto.

What man living hath either heard or read of such sensuall and incontinent designes? such libidinous, and incestuous affection? Thou *Hyppolite*, for not yeelding to the lust of *Phaedra* thy Stepmother, wast through her false accusation, by thy father, pursued, till the Chariot wherein thou fleddest, brake, and thou miserably among the sharpe stones rent to peeces: but by thy fall, thou hast preserved thy name from blacke, mouthed infamie, who onely is delighted with her brazen Trumpet, to sound the harsh tunes of our foule defame: as for thee *Eliosto*, whom the Fates likewise have reserved to perpetuities, must with thy licentious *Phadra*, abide continually the detestable brand of vnspeakable ignominie. But I digresse.

When he had ended these lines, sealed and directed the same, he could not find by many devises which hee sought, how it should be brought to his mothers hands: at length, after many and sundry wayes invented, this was thought best: calling to mind *Lucilla* the Queenes Maid, which he often noted to be in some regard with her, determined to procure her, either for courtesie, or reward, to deliver it. And verie early in the morning, as soone as he could get readie, addressed himselfe to

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the Court, attending the comming of his mother thither, as she vsually did : but vnhappy *Eliusto*, it fell not out so well with him that day; for the Queene distempered in her thoughts, had her mind so much on loue, as she enioyed no sleepe by night, nor content by day, so that she was enforced with weaknesse to keepe her Chamber, to the great discomfort and griefe of all the Ladies. But *Cupid* which is alwayes benigne to them that serue him, brought him this pleasure. It fortuned that *Lucilla*, with whom *Eliusto*'s chief desire was to have some speech, passed into the Garden, either to walke, or for some occasion of the Queenes (I know not whether) whom he followed with a fearefull countenance, more like a novice in Loves schoole, then any way skilfull in such enterprises : yet whetted on by the hopes which his heart conceyved, he saluted the Gentlewoman, who was not a little abashed to see the Prince so neare her, nor could she iudge any cause of his comming vnto her.

Lucilla being willing to heare what he would say, with a face blushing, shewing a kind countenance, she enquired of his health, with other ordinarie prattle : vnto which hee answered, and returning her many thanks, said; Mistresse *Lucilla*, though my deserts have never merited fauour at your hands, yet let me crave your furtherance in a sute, for that I heare my mother is weake, and not willing to bee troubled, so that I cannot attaine vnto hir speech; and besides, my businesse of importance, compelleth me very shortly to leave the Court, to deliuer this Letter into her owne hands, and at your leysure to returne me such answer, as she shall please to deliver : in doing, which you shal both do me a fauour of great esteeme, and cause me hereafter, not to wound this your kindnes with oblivion.

The Gentlewoman which did know where the Queenes shooe did wring her, began immediatly to coniecture his disease, and to shoot at that which indeed she hit without any great ayme, supposing the Prince to be wounded with like affection, was glad to become so happy a Messenger to her, who could willingly vouchsafe him as partner of her best fortunes; yet making a kind deniall, she said : Sir, though I could
willingly

willingly doe you more service then modestie will I acquaint you with; yet it is not the part of our Country Gentlemen, to make poasts of women, having Pages fit for that purpose: if I refuse your request, attribute it to no discourtesie in me, which am verie loath to offend her highnesse, not knowing whether the sentence of your Paper may breed any discontent or no. That many Messengers have incurred displeasure, yea, and losse of life, as the cause hath deserved, I hope it is not vnkowne vnto you, yet hath the harmlesse bearer knowne as little what he carried, as I desirous to know of you.

Sweet *Lucilla* (quoth the Prince) that it is wisdom by ,, others harmes to beware, I denie not; yet notwithstanding, ,, it is discourtesie, not to fulfill the request of a Gentleman, which hath evermore shewed himselfe most dutifull vnto her Maiestie: can I therefore frame my heart to preiudice that Ladie of incomparable vertue? No, no, heavens never permit me life, if in the least thought I once offend her.

Lucilla, noting by the often change of his colour, in telling his tale, that his heart was not his owne, but had some more businesse in hand then willingly he would reveale, loath to move his patience by her deniall, answered: Sir, perswading my selfe of your loyaltie, I will for this time become your Embassador, although it should impaire my credite with her Excellence, whose favour I hold as deare as my life: and that you shall assure your selfe of my fidelitie herein, if you please to meete me in this place to morrow, by that time the Suns power shal have drawne the deaw from off the earth, I shall returne you answer as you desire.

Thankes, good *Lucilla*, for thy courtesie, assure your selfe I will not die in your debt, if ever *Eliosto* may requite it by any industrie. In the meane time (quoth he) favour me so highly, as weare this for my sake: and pulling off a Diamond of great price, gave it her, which she was loath to accept; yet giving him thanks for his kindnesse, replied. Sir, I prize not my paines, that you should reward me with hire, or do you good, in hope of benefite: for as it is unfitting a Gentlewoman to take gifts in such maner bestowed; so is it discourtesie, and no

part of womanlike condition, to reiect the gift of a friend, therefore accept my thanks vntill such time I shall better deserve it.

Thus time passing away, *Lucilla* taking her leave, went towards the Queens Chamber, and *Eliosto* to his lodging, where ministring fuell vnto his follie, hee began in his imaginations most strangely to be perplexed; for his propheticke soule layd downe before him, both the enormitie of the fact, and the condigne punishment, which alwayes accompanieth such a crime: yet notwithstanding he was so blind with outrageous lust, as that no such sacred inppositions were of force sufficient to reclaime him from his intended resolution: Vnto which I leave him.

Lucilla seriously bethinking her selfe of these rare and abominable accidents, thought good since they were committed vnto her secrecie, to smoothen them vp in silence, lest by their detection, both their safeties vtterly might be ruined. Vpon this she came into the Queenes presence, where being of her perceyved, shee was demaunded where shee had spent the time so long from hir, knowing that all her attendants, besides her selfe, were combersome. Madame, having beene to search some daintie that might yeeld delight to your weake stomacke, and cause better digesture, by chance prying in the garden for such things, I was encountred by the best Phisition in the Dominion of *Cyprus*, who gave me a receipt, which I judge by my simple skill, will give your Majestie great ease, yet doth the man doubt whether your stomacke will digest it, yea or no: this (gracious Ladie quoth *Lucilla*) hath beene the cause of my absence, and no other. Alas, good wench, how am I beholding vnto thee, that regarding my health, searchest the depth of thy skill! but, *Lucilla*, in vaine seekest thou her redresse, which no Phisition with all his hearbs, drugs, and simples, balmes, emplaisters, or what Art may provide, can remedie, the gods only by their grace must finish my desires, or give evidence, that life hath left within me the due possession of her field. What Madame, ever in this tune? once alter these discords, which maketh your Musicke jarre, and sing the beleefe with

with a cheerefull voice, so may your minde be a little eased, and the receipt I have to minister, worke with the more effect : I speake this of experience; for everie cunning Phisition will ,, prepare the body of his patient before he minister any thing; ,, therefore if you will shake off this melancholie, you shall have a taste of what I promise, if not, your Grace must pardon mee : it were great pity so precious a thing should be cast away. Wel (quoth *Cleodora*,) thou art disposed to crosse me with thy wordes, which in yeelding small comfort, do nothing else but aggravate my disease : therefore leaving these jeasts, tell mee if thou hast aught will doe me good, if not, vse me no more thus vnkindly, lest vanquished with the extremitie of my griefe, I chance to say that with my tongue which my heart will repent, or exercise my hands in such severitie, as shall not beseeme my person. The Gentlewoman seeing the wind blow so warme, at the view of the Queenes impacience, feared as much as shee promised, thought not good above her strength to moove ,, her; for women being by nature hot, vpon small occasions, ,, oft times become vnreasonable : wherefore making a pre- ,, amble to her discourse, like an eloquent Orator began thus. (*Eliosto*) with that word, making a long pause, to note her countenance, on the sodaine naming her beloved, was thus interrupted. *Eliosto, Lucilla?* What frantike humor in this manner causeth thee to nominate him, with whom as yet thou never hadst any conference? Madame (said the Gentlewoman) attend the rest, before you either dislike or commend me; then proceede quoth the Queene.

This *Eliosto* (as I am credibly informed) loveth a Ladie, but whom I know not, and as a dear friend of his certified me, is so tormented in his passions, that the night naturally ordained for rest, (restlesse) he consumeth in great discontent; the day wherein all creatures delight, is vnto him loathsome, insomuch that through watching, and refusing his diet, his lovely visage, from the sanguine is altered into the yellow coloured saffron; yea, Madame, these mine eyes are witnessles of it, who this day saw him passe into the Court so feeble, that his weake legges could hardly support the weight of his bodie.

No more of this *Lucilla*, lest thy tongue busied too long on this tragedie, I in the meane time be compelled to seeke an end of my torments, by dispatching mine owne life. Is this thy comfortable confection? Is this the reliefe thou preacheest of, which would yeeld me such quiet of minde? Why should I live to see another enioy my loue? haue I made choise of him, and shall another, no wayes worthie of him, enioy my felicitie? Peace *Cleodora*, whither rovest thou? let reason subdue rage, let not every one be privie to thy incestuous love, but conceale it as thou maist, and seeke some secret device, by death, which is the best remedie to give contentation to thy heart. But hearken *Lucilla*, that thou mayest in time, when my bodie shall be intombd among the dead, report vnto my sonne, how deare I held his love, as my countenance often shewed, though hee carelesse of Loves toyes, never regarded it; do but this for me, by his frind to learne the Ladies name, with whom *Eliosto* is lo intralld: this is all the service that ever I will exact of thee, that knowing her, I may become an intercessor for him, whom my heart more desireth then all the worlds possessions: With this, tears which trickled downe from her opticke instruments, restrained her tongue.

In which sorrowfull passion, her Maiden became a partner, and grieved for her follie (which indeed was none) committing so heynous a fault in procuring the same, excused her selfe in this manner.

How much I grieve to see you so discomforted, I cannot tell, but relying vpon the hope of your graces free pardon, if you vouchsafe to peruse this Letter, you shall know what shee is with whom your sonne is so strangely affected. This Letter I received at his hands, who hearing of your disquiet, desirous (as it should seeme) to acknowledge his dutie, coniured me by many faire words, and proffers of kindnesse, to deliver it vnto your selfe; which albeit for modestie I did long refuse, thrusting that from me with my finger, which I would willingly have drawne vnto me with all my bodie: in the end, I consented, and therather, for your Ladiships quiet, which as I suppose, will bid it welcome for the masters sake; who, if my iudgement in the

the Planet *Venus* deceive me not, will proove ſhortly a moſt rare coniunction, or I will never truſt my ſkill againe: for *Venus* being in the ſigne of *Leo*, hath domination over both houſes, viz. He and Shee, or He and You.

The Queene when ſhee heard *Lucillaes* tale, voide of all hope to obtain hir beloved *Eliſto*, after ſhe had awhile pawſd, as one at length awaked from her *memento*, as from a ſleepe, answered. Now truſt me, thou haſt cunningly gone about the buſh, and haſt daintily ſought to enter into my deepeſt ſecrets: yet how ſubtilly ſoever you have practiſed the matter, there may bee a quidditie to deceive both thee and him: but I pray thee tell me what ſpeeches uſed he at the deliverie thereof.

The deſpairing Prince (good Madame) for ſo I muſt call him, howſoever (as it is reported) his valour moſt worthily ſhewes it ſelfe in field, yet in affection he is moſt timorous and fearfull, in that not daring to reveale the ſum of his deſires, muſt commit it to a tell-tale Paper, languishing to the death, wanning his delight, and by ſilence prolonging his ſorrowes, his lookes declaring more then in wordes he is able to viter. For he that not long ſince had ſeene his beautie and gallant grace, the agillitie of his bodie, and noted everie particular lineament ſhall now through the puſillanimitie of his minde, ſee a metamorphoſis, which may moove the moſt adamantine heart to compaſſion, the cauſe to me vnkowne, but yet ſuſpected. The aſſurance I doubt not but your Grace will ſoone vnderſtand, if you daine to teare the Seale, and peruſe the Contents.

Cleodora, which thought everie minute a yeare till ſhee had knowledge of her ſons mind, put her maiden from her prattle, with a fained meſſage; when being all alone, with a number of dolorous ſighes for the Princes perplexitie, ſhe read, and many times read thoſe lines which gave her firſt comfort of enioying her hearts content. How welcome they were vnto her, it may better be imagin'd then by me explained, whoſe head was wholly employed in answering the ſame; for which ſhe thought it not vnfit to uſe the helpe of *Lucilla*: wherefore reſting from her former ſtudies vntill her maide came, we leave her to the contemplation of her Love.

Lucilla

Lucilla having dispatched her Mistresse message, repaired into the Garden, where the consideration of the miserable estate of those two lovers presented vnto her minde a confused Chaos of vncouth and disquieted passions; so that sitting in an Arbor, she fell into these termes. *Lucilla*, thou seest no phisick preuailes against the gaze of the Basiliske; no charme against the sting of the Tarantula, no prevention to divert the decree of the Fates; nor no meanes to recall backe the balefull hurt of

“ Fortune: Incurable sores are without *Avicens* Aphorismes,
 “ and therefore no saive for them but patience. Then *Lucilla*
 say with *Solon*, *Crasus* is not happie before his death; confesse
 “ with *Saladine* King of *Egypt*, that the prosperous successe of
 “ *Policrates* prognosticated some dire event, that Fortune
 “ standeth vpon the weathercocke of Time, constant in no-
 “ thing but Inconstancie: for I see well, that to assigne happi-
 “ nesse to him that lives (considering the alteration that Time
 “ and Fortune presents with sundrie stratagems) is to allot the
 “ reward of victorie before the battaile be fought. The grea-
 “ test miserie of all, sayth *Byas*, is not to beare miserie; and that
 “ man is most happie (quoth *Dyonisius*) that from his youth
 “ hath learned to be vnhappy. *Demetrius* surnamed the *Besie-*
 “ *ger*, iudged none more vnhappy then he which never tasted
 “ of aduersitie: for that Fortune accounts of them as abiects
 “ and vassails of dishonor, whom she presents not, as wel with
 “ bitter pils, as sweete potions. Alluding to that saying of *Pla-*
 “ *tarch*, that nothing is Evill that is Necessarie, vnderstanding
 “ by this word Necessarie, whatsoever commeth to a wiseman
 “ by fatall Destinie; because vsing patience in necessitie, he gi-
 “ veth a greater glorie vnto vertue. Although these secret
 meditations were perswasions vnto quiet, yet she no sooner cast
 her eye to the *Queenes* lodging, but she was overcharged with
 melancholy: to avoide which, taking her needle in her hand
 she fell to worke, and hearing the prettie birds recorde their
 sweet and pleasant notes, she warbled out this Madrigall,

Lucillaes

Lucillaes Song.

The stately State that wisemen count their good,

The chiefest blisse that lulles asleepe Desire

Is not dissens from kings and princely blood:

The royall Crowne ambition doth require:

For birth by fortune is abased downe,

And perilles are comprisd within a Crowne.

The Scepter and the glittering pompe of Mace,

The head impalde with honour and renowne,

The Kingly throne, the seate and regall place,

Are toys that fade when angry Fortune frowne:

Content is farre from such delights as those,

Whom woe and danger doe ennie as foes.

The cottage seated in the hollow dale,

That Fortune neuer feares, because so lowe:

The quiet minde that Want dooth set to sale,

Sleepes safe when Princes seates doe overthrowe:

Want smiles secure, when princely thoughts do feeble,

That Feare and Danger treads upon their beele.

The bitter grieve that frets the quiet minde,

The sting that prickes the froward man to woe,

Is Envy, which in honour seld we finde,

And yet to Honour sworne a secret foe:

Take heede, for Incest is a sugred ill,

That Fortune layes, presumptuous minds to spill.

*Lucilla had no sooner ended hir Madrigale when th'aire
on a sodaine was changed with thunders, and stormy tem-
pests, for that she was forced, through the feare of the light-
ning, to withdraw herselfe into the Court, who entring the
Queenes chamber, found her newly awakened from sleep,
with a more reuiued colour then before, vnto whome the
Queene thus spoke. Since thy being with mee, I had a
F dreame,*

dreame, that held me all the time of my sleepe, the remembrance wherof doth trouble me very much, which as neere as I can remember, I will tell thee. Me I thought was going through a thicke wood, where were a number of nettes and snares layde in euery path where should I passe, yet me thought I passed through them so easily, as if they had bin of no strength; til at last I came toward a great water, where neere vnto the shoare lay a great boate, and from the boate lay a long line, made al of gold and pearle; within the compasse whereof, treading ere I was aware, mee thought something gaue a snatch, wherewith the line whipt about my middle, and carried me into the boate; with the suddaine fright whereof I awaked. Now what sayest thou to this dreame? *Lucilla*, no lesse wittily conceipted of her dreame, then noting the carriage of her humour, made her this answer. Madame, if a blinde body may catch a Hare, I may happen to come somewhat neere the exposition of this your fancie. The wood you went in, is the Court, the nettes, the eyes and tongues of your well-willers that haue no power to take sure hold of your affectiō; now the great water may be the sea, and the golden Line the yong Prince, that may cary your deuotion from his father: for if I be not much deceiued, he hath you by the hart, whatsoeuer it was that held you by the middle. Vnhappy wench (quoth *Cleodora*) thou comest too neere, that hittest the marke so right; but yet maist thou be deceiued in one point, thogh not in som other; I haue passed the nets, thats true; and I am caught, it is not vntrue, but that he either wil, or shall cancell my loue to the King, that I feare will not fall out. But the Gods know all, " to whom only will I leaue it; Foes may be friends, and " kindnes where it lighteth, doth more than all the worlde " besides. His presence may please the purest eye, and for his wit, I heard my Lord wonder at it; for his bountie, our Court speaketh of it, and for his vertue, who dooth not see it? But for his loue, happy is shee that shall enioy it, for princely wisdome, with honourable bountie, shewes a diuine spirite in an excellent nature, and of such a temper I holde

holde him; and for such a one I loue him, and will euer honour him; though I haue neuer the fruition of my desires. But leauing this, I pray thee tell mee, what saide my sonne when he deliuered these letters vnto thee? Madam, to say trueth, nothing touching his loue, but importuned with such earnestnesse, for the presenting of them vnto your handes, as might haue made many proud to doe so charitable a deede, crauing it with wordes so pittifull, and lookes so ruthfull. For mine owne parte, my heart imagining by your affection, that the destinies which caused your griefe, had fettered him, and well knowing where loue is vnited, there ones weale is the others good: though I were hardly wonne to the same, yet at length I vndertooke the hazard of your good wil, promising to returne him an answer thereof, wherein, without the graunt of your consent I shall breake promise. Oh *Lucilla*, doubt-est thou of my consent in answering his kinde Letters, for whose sake I haue indured so many nights of vnrest, and carefull dayes? No Heauens, neuer fauour me with good, if I doe not paralell his affection to the vtmost of my power. Therefore, as thou hast played the aduocate, so make I thee my principal and chiefe Secretary; peruse these lines, and in equitie consider if that his wound deserue not to be tented with pittie; then let mee see thy skill in inditing, to the which thou shalt haue my helpe. Prorogue no longer the time, hunger is a sharpe sawce to those that haue good stomackes, and I measuring his desires by mine owne, imagine that meate can not be more pleasing to the hungry, then the vnexpected tydings of consent, from his new acknowledged Loue. Soft fire Madam (saide *Lucilla*) makes the sweetest mault, say our huswiues: You are far wide; what! no sooner at the stile, but ouer; haste maks waste, looke before you leape, lest a blocke vnthoght of chance to breake your shinnes. What if these letters impart his loue, how are you thereof assured? men are subtile, & can cast many colors to deceiue women; al is not gold that glisters, vnder the greenest grasse lurks the poisoned adder, the crocodile sheades

most teares, when he seeketh most to deceiue: Tria ere you trust Madam, repentance comes too late; therefore, howsoeuer you affect him, conceale it, lightly wonne, is as lightly lost. The Laborer that gaineth his mony by hard toyle, is more chary in parting therewith, than the purloyning thiefe, or the riotous youth, which by subtil practises draweth all he can from his kinde parents, to maintaine his dissolute expences, Let him bite on the bridle a while, yet gently line his curbe that he gall not: a little thing pleaseth a childe, and a good countenance is woorth golde to him that regardeth it as he professeth: weigh your owne estate, who is *Queene of Cyprus* and his mother, with the basenes of the fact: consider what a corrasieue this loue of yours wil be to the king, and if once discovered, with what detestation amongst all men you shall liue. I speake this for the disparagement (if it be possible) of his loue, and to draw your liking from him; if otherwise, in such sort to temper your affection, that to both your contents you may long enioy it; and besides, so moderate your lookes, that neyther the lightnesse, nor the liberall bestowing thereof may minister to the iealous heads any occasion of mistrust. For princes are great markes, vpon whom many eyes are intended: If therefore you are once perceiued, what perill either part may procure, your wisdom can best conceiue. Thus in dutie haue I spoken, and deliuered a grosse aduise, which I referre to your graces better consideration. Well hast thou said (quoth the *Queene* :) but what auaieth counsell to a desperate minde? No more than he that seeking to quench the flame, powreth thereinto, oyle: Thy good regard hath so ballaunced each inconuenience incident to both our estates, that by no meanes I am able to requite the specialitie of thy good will. Now if thou canst as well deuise howe we may enjoy our delight, without which wee perplexed can not long endure, what is it that *Cleodora* shall euer be mistresse of, which *Lucilla* shall not haue at her commaund? Then, as thou tenderest my good, bethink thee of some remedy; for such is my love vnto him, as that nothing may
 extin-

extinguish it, Shal I then by writing answer his letters, or no? In this I will be ruled by thee, how gladly soeuer I wish his comfort, in whome of all earthly creatures, consisteth my "happinesse. Experience is the best wisedome (saide *Lucilla*;) who would euer haue beleeued Loues power to be of such effect, how imperious soeuer he seemed, had the violence of this attempt in silence beene obfuscated! but I am thereby compelled to recant my heresie, and say, Loue is a god, or how is it possible hee should commaund Princes? Whereas you haue referred the answer of *Eliostoes* letters to me, I was neuer so voyde of reason, or so desirous to be your Counsellor, as to take so great a matter vpon me, yet shall I (so please it you to heare me) deliuer my simple opinion, as I would doe my selfe in the like action. The "olde wiues say, That they which feede with the diuell, "must haue a long spoone: and they that goe about to maister Loue, had neede of many good and sufficient precepts: Disswade your grace (since I am not able) I will not, for I see it is in vaine; neither would I wish you to giue him his answer by writing; for a paper is soone lost, and lost, vnto whose finding it shal come, it is altogether vncertaine; as soone the enuious ennemie, as the well-willer may haue the perusall thereof; in which, some word, simply meant of you or me, may be, by them, at their pleasure construed: whereby, both a slander (which is not easily suppressed) may be raised, and your name brought into question: Writing is a thing whereof the subtile Lawyer takes no small aduantage. To auoyde all which casualties, this may you doe, pretend some matter of conference with him, and appoynt the time, when he at your lodging shall attend you; whither comming secretly, and at such a season, as the king your husband shalbe employed in serious affaires, you may vse your speech at your pleasure: This would *Lucilla* doe, your grace may vse your discretion. I like thy deuise well (quoth *Cleodora*;) therefore faile not to meete him for thy promise sake. Now in faith Madam (saide *Lucilla*) you haue made a good choise for a solicitor; but take me as I am, this

is the first suite, for which *Deuer* was retained, and I doubt not (if I now speed well) of many clients. As they were thus pleasant betweene themselves, they heard ~~at~~ ^{one} ~~the~~ ^{remotest} ~~house~~ ^{horne} ~~in~~ ^{the} ~~house~~, which caused the Queene to send forth her page for the enquire of the matter, who returned her answer, that the King with his traine, were setting forward to hunt a wild Boare which his Forresters had roused: this newes gaue them cause of ioy, hoping that fortune had fauoured them with a happie time, which doubting the like opportunitie, they were loath to omit. *Cleodora* especially, who could not be quieted in minde, vntill shee had heard of the Princes answer; wherefore a Page was presently commanded to search for him, willing him with such conuenient speed as he could, to meete *Lucilla* in the garden: the Page vsed such diligence, that speedily he was brought vnto his presence, whom he found solitarie (as a holy father) at his Orizons; whom the Page awaked with his ioyfull message, which was, (albeit doubtfull whether of weale or woe) most welcome vnto him. The suddaine hearing of which, caused him to pause a while, when hauing determined, courteously returned answer to the gentlewoman, that he would incontinently attend her. The boy he so bounteously rewarded, as that he had cause to boast himselfe of his well employed seruice. *Lucilla* hauing receiued his answer, aduertised the Queene thereof; who commanded her to haste, least by her absence she should giue him cause of discontent: but for al her speed, *Eliofo* was long there before, attending her comming, who was no sooner of him perceiued to enter the place, but his heart presaging some good hap, was thence more delighted, then at al the motions that euer could be imagined. After his courteous salutations done, he encontred her thus. Sweet *Lucilla*, I know not what to imagine of thy suddaine message, yet willing to bee resolved, as one that by thy answer expecteth his doome either of life or death, I attend thy pleasure: say therefore, what saith the Queene to my letters? *Lucilla* purposing to be pleasant, yet not to cloy his stomacke with such pleasant confections, that therewith hee should

should surfet; but framing her countenance to her speech, shee told him, that of all the gentlemen in the *Cyprian* Court, her good opinion was such of him, that vpon his word, shee thought shee might haue hazarded her greatest credit, which expectation of mine being deceiued. Thou art not worthy (quoth shee) to bee accounted among such honorable men at armes, which deeme their chiefest reputation to consist in the perseuerance of their word to gentlewomen. At the deliuey of which, hee that had viewed the Princes countenance, might haue supposed him to haue bin past Physicks recouerie: and withal, standing so mute, *Lucilla* was verely perswaded, that he was ready to deliuer his lifes interest, which made her in altering her words, with a smother methode to file them; suspecting that her Comedie begunne in mirth, might prooue (to the great grieve of the whole countrie, who generally honoured him) a disinal Tragedie. Wherefore taking him by the hand, shee said; Sir, I am sorie I haue charged you so farre, but it is womanlike to be slaine with words, and for one of your calling no fit Passion, in such sort to be vanquished. That you may comfort your selfe, I first pardon the offence against mee committed, and enioine you, as you tender your credit with the Queene, to repaire at such conuenient time to her lodging, as you can best: which if you performe, the messenger will be excused. Oh *Lucilla*, how haue thy speeches tormented me, filling my entrailes with such a confusion of comfortlesse thoughts, as haue overcome my fences! Yet if thou haue any sparke of gentilitie abiding within thee, informe me how the Queene did countenance my bashfull paper: vouchsafed she the reading of them? What else (quoth she) for to discomfort you any longer it were pittie, beeing already at so low a *datum*, which not a litle troubles me. Comfort I can giue none to thy desires, but this, thy suite is loue, as your letters import, in which (albeit vnlawful) despaire not: for thy mother is a woman, though a Qu. & how compassionate our sexe is, I will not boast, but wish thee not to diffide; for (since it is ineuitable) I will be a faithful solicitor.

Mistake

Mis-take mee not *Eliofo*, I speake as a friend, and so leaue thee, vntill thy comming to my Lady, which detract not, for time lost, is such a pretious thing, as that it can againe neuer be recalled. Before whom, when thou shalt come, plead thine owne cause, and discouer thine owne grieffe; but with this caution, alwaies thinke that whatsoeuer you goe about, your aduersaries eies to be fixed, ready to take any exceptions which may blemish the lustre of your estimation.

Eliofo, which by these her last words had some greater hope of his content, was so surprised with ioy, that he could not bidde her farewell: yet after his *memento* past, farewell (quoth hee) the faithfullest friend that euer I found in my distresse. Oh *Lucilla*, happie maist thou be in thy loues, and highly regarded amongst men, by whom my cares are thus lightened: trustie *Lucilla*, the worker of my hearts happie content, by whom, past all hope, I am by thy fidelitie and trueth in deliuering my message, freed from such a heauie burden, which was likely to haue beene my vtter ruine. Thus applauding *Lucilla*, hee had almost forgotten his word.

But leauing further to descant vpon this plaine song, returne we to the Queene, who was aduertised by her woman of that which had passed between the Prince and her, not omitting his heauie lookes, and pittifull speeches. And then againe, as glad to please the Queene, whom shee was assured loued him, spared not at large to set out his honours gained, his comelinesse of person, bountie, and whatsoeuer else the world admired in him, shee admirably aduanced, to the greatest content of *Cleodora*, who thought euery minute a yeare vntill shee saw him, whom with heartie desire ardently shee expected: and with that looking out at the casement, shee might espie her Beloued sonne: what ioy it caused, let them iudge which haue made better experience in louers delights.

The Queene hauing the sight of her so long desired object, sent *Lucilla* to entertaine him, and to conduct him vnto her presence. *Cleodora* staying to frame her countenance
for

for his welcome, bethought her selfe of fundry meanes; estoones, doubting by hir too pleasant and kinde vsage, to be held too forward in loue, than what discontent her lowring aspects might moue vnto him, whom she most desired to please. In this quandary, sitting vppon a pallet, and leaning her head on her pillowe, *Lucilla* had brought the Prince in, who doing his duty very feebly (for the remembrance of his attempt had astonisht him) was by the queen againe saluted, attending like the guiltie condemned, his sentence from her mouth, which was to giue him either life or death. *Eliosto* thus at a *non plus*, ouercome with the beholding of her excellent perfection, was by her, the mirror of affabilitie and courtesie, remooued out of his dumpes in this maner. *Eliosto*, whether I should chastice thy presumption in writing to me so boldly, or no, I am not yet resolved; but before I acquainted my Lord therewith, I thought good to heare thee speake (for that I would not so sodainly disgrace thee, whome so often I haue faouored) as well to heare thy intent in committing so great a folly, as what thou canst say in excuse thereof. Princes are not to be ieasted with, nor in such maner by their kinred to be assailed; therefore thou hast greatly erred in that which is committed, & incurred the danger of our chiefest lawes, by which, were thy fact knowne, thou art already condemned. The prince standing at the barre, where Beauties are chiefe iudge, was surprised with many griefes, so that hardly he could vtter a word: yet reuiued by the hope of those comfortable and sweete sayings pronounced by *Lucilla*, hee shaped her this reply. Gracious Lady, in that I haue presumed farre, I can not but acknowledge; yet that I haue incurred such punishment as your Highnesse would inflict vpon me, I denie, vnlesse death be the guerdon assigned the faithfull; for duetifull seruice, and entire affection vrged me to seekethy fauor in loue, without the which I cannot liue, so deeply are thy vertuous perfections imprinted in my heart, which if I enioy not, I desire no longer to breathe. Therefore madam, if thou disdain his loue, that liuing dieth continually

for thee: doe but say the word, and this blade, so often embued in the blood of mine enemies, shall sacrifice his masters owne true heart before thy face, that thy cruell selfe may witnesse how faithfully *Eliosto* hath loued thee. The Queene grieued to heare these speeches, moued with great compunction, could hardly forbear shedding of teares; yet "modestie, the ornament of womankind, caused her to faine a counterfeit shewe of displeasure to him, whose teares wroong drops of blood from her tender heart: yet that shee might not too suddainly confesse her desires, nor giue him cause of vtter despaire, made this answer.

Eliosto, that thou maist see, and seeing, report in all places, where euer thou shalt become, of womens pittie, I graunt thee pardon for thy fault, and with it, that life which was wholly at my disposing. For louing mee as thy prince, I heartily thanke thee; but in seeking to obtaine my loue as thy Concubine, in that I desie thee: let each estate frame it selfe in affection, as it becommeth equalitie; so shall men sooner obtaine their desires, and their loues in more tranquillitie be maintained. Thou knowest that such absurde actions are in the extreamest degree of sinne: Wilt thou therefore with me, in violating the faith which I haue plighted vnto thy father, purchase vnto my selfe such a name, the remembrance whereof, is not lesse grievous vnto mee than death? No, no, desist not any further to prosecute thy suite, let reason vanquish thy brain-sicke humour, which so afflicts thee; in doing which, thou shalt make demonstration of that true nobilitie, wherewith thou art endued: for no "greater conquest can be imagined, than that which vpon "a mans vntamed affections is atchieued. Do this, and thou shalt finde *Cleodora* thy louing and faithfull friend; who will be as carefull with fauours to aduance thee, as I haue found thee prompt and ready by thy seruice to pleasure me. "Alas, good Madame, answered the Prince, it is a thing "farre more easie to giue counsell, than once giuen, to follow it. The full gorged Churle little regardeth the starving creature at his gate; but could you conceiue the least
part

part of many thousand griefes that afflict me, you would at the length pittie me, though further fauour from you I receiued none: If thy heart be not harder than the Adamant, yield thy grace (sweet Lady) to augment my life, or vtterly for euer deny me your good will. I expect but your answer, for my resolution is no other than I haue protested: „ dastards feare to die, but the noble mind preferreth death „ which endeth all sorrowes, before a life to be continued „ with discontent. The Queene, as full of anguish, as hee „ of sorrow, beeing at her wits ende, turned her speeches to an other matter; and requested him, to contriue as cunningly as he could, his fancie in a fiction, willing therefore to shew his Mistresse (for such I must now tearme her) that he was not ignorant in musicke, taking a Lute in his hand, began to warble out this Roundelay.

*Loue was arm'd with fatall bow,
Shafts which Mother did bestow,
Mother gaue, but Father fram'd,
Father, Mother, both were blam'd.
Wanton Goddesse did beguile,
Husband with a fained smile.
For a kisse shee did obtaine,
(Labour neuer spent in vaine,)
That her sonne by Vulcans trade,
Might the chiefest God be made.
Thus shee wonne him to her will,
(Wily worke of Womans skill:)
But the Boy more proud than wise,
Waues his wings, and forth he flies.
Soone as he on earth had lighted,
Thus the fondling was despight.
As he wanted for an oracle,
Thinking all that glistred gold,
Tearming in a stable thought,
Which his selfe conceit had wrought,
Heau'n his footsteare, and his marke,*

Men his obiects, Earth his parke,
 Gods and men his hunting game:
 Beautie natures darling came,
 Beautie clad in native hue,
 Whom the Graces did indue
 With rich plentie of their gifts:
 " Beautie cause of miſchiefs,
 Beautie with whoſe worth delighted,
 Poets haue ſweete Hymnes inuited:
 Faire as is the ruddie morne,
 Leaving reſtfull Bowre forlorne.
 Morne did with Vermillion redde,
 Riſing from old Tithons bedde.
 Thus the faireſt of all faire,
 Denide to grace the liquid aire:
 Paſſing by where Loue did ſtand,
 Holding powerfull bowe in hand:
 Not ſaluting as ſhee went,
 Him that ragde in diſcontent.
 " Boiling wrath muſt iſſue ſinde,
 " Wrath that boyld in troubled minde:
 For the eaſe of whoſe vnrſt,
 Thus his furie was expreſt.
 " Loue, ſaid he, was Beauties better,
 " She ſaid Loue was natures debtor.
 Loue exclaimde on Beauties pride,
 Which all duties force denide.
 Shee ſaid Loue receiue no wrong,
 Where no dutie did belong.
 None might craue peculiar right,
 Sith they were of equal might.
 " He ſaid Beautye's reprevailed,
 " But where Loue the heart affailed.
 Beautie for it ſelfe admired,
 His ſhafts cauſde to be deſired.
 For where Loue breed no remorse,
 There had Beautye little force.

Psyche was more faire then any,
 Lou'd of few, though likt of many,
 Yet ſo likt, that none affected:
 Siſters ſped, but ſhee reiected.
 Yet quoth Beautie, Psyche gaine,
 Cupids heart to her enchainde.
 Where was then his wanted might,
 Vanquiſh'd by a womans fight?
 Thus fell Love into a trip,
 Thus ſhee gald him with a quip.
 He ſaid, 't was his owne procurement,
 Shee ſaid, it was her allurements.
 Love ſaid, Beautie pleas'd the eie,
 But he wrought hearts ſympathie.
 Hee ſaid, heart when eie had viewd,
 Was by Beauties force ſubdu'd.
 He ſaid, Beauty ſoone decayd:
 Shee ſaid, Love no longer ſtaid,
 Then while beautie was in prime,
 Thus did both gine place to Time.
 Cupid griev'd with theſe replies,
 Fram'd by her in taunting wiſe:
 Sware, by dreadfull Stygian lake,
 (Greateſt vow that Gods can make)
 That he would no more diſcend,
 Till he did this quarrell end:
 Vowing by his godheads might,
 Beauties darlings to deſpise.
 Thus he ſaies, and up he flies
 Swiftly through the Empire ſkies.
 If men might this ſtriſe decide,
 As by men it ſhould be tride,
 Then would all agree in one,
 " Beautie can prevaile alone:
 " Beautie able to unbratt,
 " Eies, and heart, and thoughts, and all:
 Yet three powers in one aſenting,

Eliosto Libidinoso.

Stroke mine heart, heart sodre relenting,
 Eyes saw beauty and admird it,
 Loue saw heart, through eyes be fir'd it,
 But faire looks did first constraime
 Cupids shafts to shape my paine.
 Fairer vertue Beauties iewel,
 Bade me not pronounce Loue cruell.
 Loue that forc'd me to affect,
 Beauties worth by Vertue deckt:
 Then, O three of all the chiefe,
 Ease at last my loathed grieffe.

The Queene hearing all those extreames to growe from affection, was in such sort by them captiuated, that vailing top-gallant, she returned to *Eliosto* this finall and comfortable resolution: The flaxe (gentle *Eliosto*) soone flameth, and yeeldes but a flash; the kinde mushrome soone ripens, and as soone rottes; the best *Emphemerum* in the riuer *Hippanis*, is made in a moment, and marrd in a minute: but contrariwise, it must be immoderate heate that engendreth the Salamander; which ingendred, neuer dieth vntill the fire be extinguished. Long time it is before the Lawrell flourisheth, which flourishing, neuer fadeth with Summers blaze, or fallieth with winters blast. The Elephant is borne tenne yeares in the dammes belly, but once brought forth, liueth three hundred. Therefore think me not vnworthie to be
 “ worne, *Eliosto*, because so long to be wooed: For light
 “ beliefe hath commonly light loue. The fish *Alphya* is engendred with a small showre of raine, and therefore is counted no meate for a veluet mouth. But good chaffer is not
 “ so soone cheapned; that which is deere of price, is deere
 “ and pretious: yea, that Castle which beares most brunt,
 “ is deemed most worthy when it is scaled. Neither doe I yet condescend to thy petition, vntill I were pushed thereto by thy promise, that thou wilt be as faithfull as thy protestations are faire; Not like the Lightning which flasheth, and presently fadeth: Nor resembling the stone *Muhrax*, which is of a rose colour, but scorched with *Phaebus* beams,
 becomes

becomes chargeable: but rather imitating the *Jem Tbra-*
cia, most burning when thou art ouerwhelmed with roar-
ing and raging disasters. On which condition thy promises
plating, and reposing the irremovable foundation of my
faithfull resolution, I make thy person the prison of my
heart, and not only vouchsafe thee of some grafts of grant,
but that thou mayst assure thy selfe the seedes of thy sure to
have beene sowne in a fertile soile: for euery graine of Loue
buried in my breast, I will yeeld thee an eare of fifty corns.
With that the impatient Louers (as if *Mars* had combatted
with Dame *Cytherea*, for suffering her Boy to make him the
marke of his game) rose in armes, where Loue conquered
Pleasure, Desire tooke incestuous Delight captiue, and li-
tle *Cupid*, like a valiant carpet knight, flew into *Venus* his
mothers bosome. *Lucilla* suspecting no lesse, was thunder-
stricken with that sodaine and sorrowfull imagination, that
bursting out of an extasie wherein she had long stood, like
one beholding *Medusæ* head, lamenting as if shee would
haue died, and in dying, made an attonement with Death:
shee sate weeping and wailing for that outrageous accident,
wringing her like white handes, and fixing her blubbered
eyes on the comfortlesse ground, clad in sable habite; wit-
nessing her hearts sadnelle, and still crying on the names of
Eliosto and *Cleodora*, still casting out wofull inuectiues against
the Destinies, calling her selfe a most accursed wretch, born
vnder such vnfortunate planets: with that she might heare
certaine trumpets sound, whereby shee gathered (as it was
indeede) that the King was returning from hunting, giuing
therefore these Louers drencht in the full channell of Plea-
sure this aduertisement, for that time they parted. Now *Eli-*
osto after this was more impatient in his passions. For loue
so fiercely assayled him, that neither Company nor Musike
could mittigate his martyrdom, but did rather far increase
his maladie. Shame would not let him craue counsell in
this case, nor feare of his fathers displeasure reveale it to any
friend, but was faine to make a Secretary of himselfe, and to
participate his thoughts with his owne troubled mind.

Living

Living thus a day or two distracted, he called to minde, the counsell of *Chrodora*, which was, that he should insinuate himselfe into the fauor of her maid *Lucilla*, who both could and would pleasure them in their loues. Her therefore hee determined to make one of his complices, not for that hee certainly thence expected helpe, neither meant desperately to detect his intimate secrets without some hope; but as the Merchant, when with the cruell confederacie of the rocke and surges rage, the ship, like to a weake stickler, hauing all his plancke-ribs rent and riuen asunder, committeth his wearied body to the conuoy of a floating boorde: as the souldier, who being hemmed in on euery side with his enemies rankes, neither stands amazed with feare, yeelding his naked breasts to the merueille jaueline, nor desperately rusheth against the poynt of the pike, which is not fortitude, but folly; but to perfourme Natures iniunctions, gathereth him selfe wisely within his weapon, and striueth with courage to acquite him selfe valiantly. Or as the wise phisition, which forsaketh not his patient, though hee can not finde any soutraigne medicine for his maladie, but ministreth such as meeke coniectures teach him, lest hee discouraged, should deliuer to death, his patient discomforted: Euen so *Eliosto*, thinking to prooue *Lucilla*, though not sure to preuaile, sent for her, who speedily comming, he courteously entertained, and with these perswasions indeuored to make her a fauourite to his purposes: To whom, as they sate together in his lodging; Friend *Lucilla* (quoth the Prince) far so your courtesie in speedy comming at my request willeth me to call you; I am to imparte a matter vnto you, of no small importaunce, in which I must first desire your diligence, faith, and secrecie: Long since I had layd these affaires in your faithfull bosome, but that I scarce knew your nature, which since the deereft of mine acquaintance, being the most familiar of your friendes, the most friendly of my familiars, haue with no small commendations deliuered vnto me; saying also, that you deserued to be inscribed in the catalogue of my acquaintance: I euer sought
to

to ioyne hands with you in friendship, which now willingly breaketh forth into a flame, and displaith it selfe vnto your sight; and if it shall please you to accept the same, you shal henceforth find me as forward to shew my selfe grateful, as at this time, I am desirous you should gratifie mee in this action. To these *Lucilla* bowed hir selfe, and *Eliosto* proceeded. Since the matter is to be vnfolded between friends, I need not vse any glozing phrase, flowers of Rhetoricke, or colours of eloquence; thou knowest, gentle *Lucilla*, how difficult it is to loue, and how much difficult not to loue: Is the iron faulty, because it cleaueth to the forcible Adamant? the needie because it is drawne by the vertue of the Loadstone? gold, in that it cannot withstand the hidden strength of the Chrysocol? or the rush, because it moueth to the jeate or Amber? or is flesh and blood to be blamed, because subiect to Beautie? No, no, gentle *Lucilla*: It is the attractiue "force of flowering beautie, which bewitcheth the wisest, "enchanteth the severest, curseth Sobriety from her Court, "& dislodgeth Vertue from her castle. The conquerd must "obey by constraint: for me to striue against the streame, is "furie; to beare a saile against the wind, frenzie. Where- "fore exiling all mistrust, from the bottome of mine heart, I will briefly display vnto thee the whole shrine of my secrets; then will I vnfolde both our ensuing profits, and also the meanes of eschewing our perill. I loue my mother *Cleodora*, neither is the fault (if any fault be) to be fathered by me, but by Fortune, who holdeth the helme or stearne of al humane life. I was not earst acquainted with mothers manners, nor inuitiated in the elements of her country curtesies. I thought that womens eies had euer beene true embassadours of their hearts, I tooke their looks for their sutors, and their glaunces to be tokens of their speciall good-wil: alas, herein I failed in my physiognomie; for noting *Cleodora* often sweetely to smile on me, and gathering thereby (as I thought) infallible signes of her fauour towards my selfe: and on the other side, supposing that I should shew my selfe to be but of a very cold constitution, in that I could not loue, or prooue

H my

my ſelfe an haggard, or faint-hearted ſoole, to expect any further at a womans handes, whoſe modeſtie reſtraineth her from opening her minde any otherwiſe, than by her eyes onely: Wherefore, I more forward, than fortunate, firſt ſet my foot into the ſielde; thinking my ſelfe a worthier perſonage, becauſe loued of ſuch a Ladie; and then firſt thinking my ſelfe vnworthy, at leaſt vnworthy of ſuch a creature: ſo, not ſuſpecting otherwiſe, than that all was ſure on my ſide, with the better courage I marched thither; where I found contrary to expectation, the gates of Loue faſt locked, and my paſſage to Affection gaine-ſaid: but ſhame it was to retire, nay it was vnpoſſible to returne; for by dealing with the flame, I had ſo ſcared and ſinged my wings, that I was ſafe enough for flying further. Therefore now pittying my ſelfe, who was earſt ſo pittifull for her ſake, I ſought by all meanes I could, by often rubbing, to force out ſome fire, in the hard flintie walles of her heart, whereby in time I found her ſo tractable; yea, and her intire loue, ſhining forth in ſuch aboundance, that I could not without much diligence and induſtrie, deuife how to couer the light thereof; our loue was ſtill letted, but ſo farre from being leſſened, that now, it thou vouchſafeſt not thine helping hand, it will deſace with the ſowleſt blot, our whole familie, to the ruine both of thy Miſtreſſe, and my ſelfe. Although for the honourable loue which my ſoule beareth to our famous houſe, I could perſwade my ſelfe to abandon the Court, my Country, to leaue my father; yea, which thing is greateſt, and moſt grieuous, to forgoe my deereſt mother, hoping that Time might weare out the *Impreſſa* of her image from mine heart, if thus much I were not acquainted with her determinate reſolution, that ſhee will either flie with me, or follow me: yet if ſhee bee intercepted, ſhee will teare the priſon of her daintie bodie, with her naked hands, ſo that her ſoule freed from earthly fetters, will ſtill accompany me. Then what lowd laughter would this afford to our enuious foes? what lamentation would it bring to our friends? who the more the enuious ſhould triumph

umphat hir grief, the more would ſhe grieue at hir triumph. Therefore (ſweete *Lucilla*) wee commit to thee, the reines of our coach, hoping thou wilt with as great ſpeede as we both exſpect, guide vs to the height of our deſires: what preiudice can ariſe, for that I once or twice enter commons with my father, eſpecially when his eyes ſee nought whereat they may grieue, nor any perceiue whereat they may grudge: which done, we ſhall beginne to loue with reaſon, who now are led with rage, and after our heat is mitigated, call our ſelues to account, and counſell how we may break off our commenced courſe. Thou knoweſt how our wiſhes may be compaſſed, how our willes may be accompliſhed: thou art acquainted with the roomes and lodgings of the Court, thou canſt procure me acceſſe without ſuſpition, and regreſſe without danger: this cannot bee doone without thy helpe, and cannot be left vndone without our miſhap. Now, what profite may hereby proceede, what diſcommodity you ſhall preuent, I appeale to none other Iudge than to thine owne diſcretion; for heereby thou ſhalt preſerue our houſes fame, and deſerue mee thy eternall friend. Be not mercileſſe, good *Lucilla*, becauſe I intreate thee, nor voyde of pittie, becauſe I pray thee: I haue committed to thee my body, which is my ſelfe; and *Cleodora* who is my ſoule, uſe them faithfully, who doubted not to conceiue of thee friendly: let it ſuffice that thou couldeſt as well hurt as helpe, kill as cure, as well ſincke as ſaue vs.

Heereupon *Lucilla* ſomewhile deliberating, and in deliberation making faire weather in her face, which betokened the like to betide *Elioſto* in his loue. And although *Elioſto* (quoth ſhee) as you pretend the yron naturally cleaueth to the forcible Adamant, and nature can not be exanthorated, yet the adamant leſſeth his power when the iron is rubbd ouer with the Sideritie: though the needle be drawne vnto the loadſtone, yet the operation of the loadſtone is annihilated by oppoſition of the more vertuous

Theomedes : the Chrysocoll beeing steeped in the iuyce of garlike, leeseeth his effect: the jeat cannot preuaile against the rush, vnlesse your selfe voluntarily lend it artificial heat: " to be short, Humane flesh is not so feeble, as you paint it " forth, vnlesse Vertue the prince and mistris be made slauish, subiect to base affections: how can Beautie beare " sway, if you rule your barke with this rudder? If you vse this excellent gift as a preseruatiue kept in your pocket, or a Pomander in your bosome, without applying the one, or chafing the other: then is not vertue in the fault, but the blame to be laid on your owne folly: for wherefore do you weare a Lawrell branch, and yet are scorched with lightning? to what ende doe you beare the hooke, and yet suffer the minde to be ouergrowne with disordinate weeds? what auaieth it to carrie the Androdamant shield of *Pallas*, if not able to shunne the darts of *Venus*? But it is too late to cry " Stand, to him that lieth in the dirt: to wish his present " returne, who hath newly committed his sailes to the mercie of the winde: to teach him to know an Eele, who is already bitten with a snake: for in such cases, we nought require how it happened, but how the hap may be healed. Know therefore, worthy *Eliosto*, how farre this request is from newes to *Lucilla*, which often *Cleodora* recited vnto me, loading mine eares with lamentations, redoubling blowes on her naked breasts; intreating me, either to take away her life, or else to make way for her loue: I resisted, not mooued with her petitions, which I confuted with perswasions, and would haue confounded them with threats, had I not seene her desperate resolution to be such, that shee would rather, or sooner butcher her owne bodie, then renounce her deere loue, *Eliosto*: how often beeing drowned in deepe remembrance of your selfe, shee hath called vpon the name of *Eliosto*, and espying mee to perceiue it, shee presently ouercast her lillie cheekes with a crimson vaile! But alas, how hath Discontent altered her countenance? how hath Griefe impaired her admired beauty? how haue salt & brinie teares left their stained paths where they

they earſt trickled downe, on that euer-flowring ſpring of her ſweete face? Ah *Cleodora*! *Cleodora* (and therewith ſhaking her head, freſh teares brake forth their way) who euer ſawe a greater change? *Cleodora* I ſay, in whoſe perſon Vertue marched arme in arme with Beautie, hath blemiſhed her outward blaze, with an inward blotte. *Cleodora*, who was chaſte, becauſe ſhe was wiſe, and wiſe, in that ſhe was chaſte, hath bleared the eye of her mind with foule affection: finally, *Cleodora* ſurpaſſing her ſexe as the Sunne doth all other planets, being Beautie it ſelfe, is *Narciſſus*-like intangled with the image of Beautie: for you alſo noble *Elioſto* are paſſing faire, excellling men as farre as the Moone dooth any Starre, to our ſight, and therefore I the leſſe maruell that ſuch an eclipse ſhould appeare in our Sunne, when ſuch a Moone was oppoſite to the ſame: But now ſince a dangerous ſore requireth an vndaunted phiſition, I heere girde my ſelfe to the vndertaking of this ſeruice, and purpoſe to giue you notice of conuenient opportunitie. This being ſaide, *Lucilla* tooke her leaue, promiſing that *Elioſto* ſhould heare from her ere long: Be mindefull then (good *Lucilla*) quoth *Elioſto*, for I long to heare from thee. I will deferue commendations (quoth ſhee) and then ſhee departed.

Not long after, through the vaine conceipt of factious ſpirites, deſiring (as many now-adayes) innouation, there grew in the Northerne parts of *Cyprus*, a ſedition, which by reaſon of preiudiciall proceedings ſeem'd to be peremptorie in ſome farall reſolution. *Amafias* ſoueraigne and king of that famous Continent, pittying the ſiniſter accidents of his people, being a man as iuſt in his cenſures, as royall in his poſſeſſions, as carefull for the weale of his country, as the continuance of his diademe, thought, That vnpeopled cities were corouſies to princes cōſciences, that the ſtrength of his ſubiects, was the ſinewes of his dominions, and that, euery crowne muſt containe a care, not onely to win honor by foraine conqueſts, but in maintaining dignity with ciuill and domeſticall inſights. Wherefore grounding his argu-

ments vpon these premisses, coueting to be counted *Pater patriæ*, determined with as great speed as might be, to suppress, by his royall presence in those parts (if it were possible) the principall means of that disordinate rebellion. Providing therefore all things needfull for such an expedition, forth he sets, no lesse honorably accompanied, then strongly defended; vnto whose euent, for a time, wee will leaue him. The Queene seeing Fortune to present her with Ball and Racket, thought it not good, through remisse negligence, to tempt her Deitie. Whereupon shee dispatcht her maid to aduertise the Prince, not of those accidents (for with them he was thoroughly acquainted) but of the time when he should be present before *Cleodoraes* windowe, which was at ten of the clocke in the night. *Eliosto* vpon these tidings, beeing indued with vanitie, and imbrued with vice, did so nusse himseife vp in this his admiration, as that neither the dread of Gods wrath, nor the feare of his fathers displeasure, could driue him to desist from his detestable kinde of liuing. Well, at length the heauie euening, heauie for the departure of beautifull *Phetis*, began to put on her sable attire, and mourning-like, to fixe her saddest face on the sorrowfull earth; her face I say, yet blacke and sorrowfull, though the golden starres, laboured with their twinckling light, to make her looke somewhat more liuely: when *Eliosto* engulphed in an Ocean of Conceipts, came staggering to the lodging, or rather temple of his goddesse, where hee might espie the beames of a candle breaking through a chinke of a moltred wall. The Prince peeping, perceiued *Cleodora* sitting very solitarie, with her folding armes, embracing each other, whom after he had named, and deliuered his watch-word: Who, mine *Eliosto* (quoth shee?) I, answered he, I am here, truly intituled, Thine *Eliosto*: since I am altogether thine: open, open vnto me, my sweet darling, for I long to enioy thy beloued company.

Cleodora with silent pace approched to the gates her selfe, endeavouring to vndoe the barres, which indeed were too heauie to be remoued by a weake womans arme; notwithstanding

standing shee opened them onely for the space of halfe a foote, which *Eliosto* seeing, Desire making him thinke nothing vnpossible; first with his right slender side, and consequently with his whole bodie, entred the house: where imbracing her, as he thought to haue imprinted his heart in her sweet lippes, shee fell into a swoound: so did the extremitie of either suddaine ioy, or inopinate feare exanimate her; the blood naturally retiring from her palest face, to comfort the passionate heart, the trembling whites of her eies, skarce appearing through their almost closed shrines, so that shee seemed rather a senslesse image, than a liuely corps: but onely the pulses, as messengers, and vitall heate remaining, and yet retaining his course, gaue euidence, that the soule had as yet, not left the earthly confines of her tabernacle. *Eliosto* hereat would haue lost his wittes, in the Laborynth of perplexities, had not the sting of grieve recalled and reclaimed his fleeting and fugitiue spirits. Alas, if I should flie (quoth he) I were guiltie of her death, for leaving her destitute in such danger; if I remaine, some one of her guard may take me, and from me, my life. O vnfortunateloue, which minglest my sugar with salt, my sirrope with aloes, my gladnes with grieve; thou giuest me a nose-gay of nettles, hid amongst a few roses, thou shewest mee a faire picture drawne with infectious paint, thou offerest to kisse me, and in kissing, to stabbe mee. Into how many daungers hast thou drawne mee? Into how many deathes hast thou driuen mee? with how many blowes hast thou annoyed my sorrowfull head? what plague now remained for thee to exercise vpon my vnfortunate selfe but this? the worst and wofullest, to murder a Lady in mine armes? why hadst thou not rather tried thy cruelty, and tyred thy selfe with tyranny first on *Eliosto*? why hadst thou not first butchered my body, and stanchd thy thirst with my blood? happier had I died, laying mine head in her lap, than liuing to haue held her dying in my boosome. This said, he beeing ouercome with pitie, and kindnesse, cast away all care of his owne securitie, and often bowing vp her speechlesse body, often kissing her, and more often watering the
garden

garden (sometimes a faire garden fairely deck'd with freshest flowers) of her face with deaw from his distillant eyes: Ah *Cleodora*, quoth he, where art thou? why, hearest thou not? Or hearing, why answerest thou not? Open thine eies, and see thy *Eliosfo*, and seeing, smile on him, and smiling as thou arte wont, kisse him; it is thy *Eliosfo* who is present with thee, speaketh to thee, and kisseth thee; alas, and arte thou dead, my heart? soone shall my sworde make passage for my soule, that it might meete thee againe in the faire *E-lizian* fieldes. Ah my life, my delight, blessed hope, my dearest ioy, shall I so leese thee? Yet vnfold those beautiful carbuncles of thine eyes, yet heaue vp thine head, or at least, bid me farewell: I see thou arte not yet departed, thou yet retainest vitall heate, thou yet breathest, thy heart yet beate-th. O *Cleodora*, leaue not thy Loue in so lamentable distresse; are these the ioyes vnto which thou bidst me? these the delights to which thou bringest me? these the pleasures to which thou inuitest me? is this the night which thou affoordest me? Ah blackest night, fit witnesse of my woes, because best resembling my sorowes: Therewith fixing his eyes on *Cleodoraes* face, he rained foorth teares in such abundance, that they washing her temples somewhat pierced and quickened the surpris'd senses; whereby weakely starting vp, and garishly staring about, especially on the face of *Eliosfo*; Ah, where haue I bin (saide she) why didst thou not rather suffer mee quietly to departe? blessed had I died in thy embracings, and happy to haue breathed foorth my soule into thy mouth, but now must I liue to be left of thee, and now must I die for being left of thee. But within a while, she being appeased, they entred their bedchamber, and hauing layd aside their apparrell (as some men vse to doe their friends) vntill they had neede to vse them againe, they reposed their dainty bodies in the prepared bed. In which bed it might seeme that *Cupid* had taken vp his lodging, and yet not to rest: he came naked, and without all armor, and yet not without his dart: He was her *Mars*, *Paris*, *Ganymedes*, she his *Venus*, *Helena*, *Polixena*, *Amilia*. Nowe he

he praised her faire eyes, commended her soft cheekes, her full swelling pappes; and yet not satisfied with delight, hee often lifted vp the sheete, to make the sence of his sight partaker of those ioies, which his feeling had before possessed. And what disaſter (ſaid he) ſo desperate, that could deterre me from ventring for ſuch a conqueſt? Now is my fortune in the pride of her eſtate, now am I placed in the height of felicitie, now am I ſeated vpon the throne of happines. But alas, why flies th' enuious houre away ſo faſt? why fleets the winged night ſo haſtily? why doth *Apollo* gather his ſtarued ſteedes ſo ſoone to their daily labor? Giue me a night, ſuch as thou didſt to *Hercules*, and *Alcmena*; certes if aged *Tithon* were as much delighted with the company of *Aurora*, as I with *Cleodora*, hee would longer detaine her in her watry couch. Neither was the queene all this while ſilent, who repayed him his owne, both in word and action. By this time the blackeſt night had his jeaty beard changed into an hoary gray, whereby *Eliosio* perceiued that hee was waxen old and departing, ready to reſigne his ſcepter to a better ſucceſſor; Wherefore, though detained with the loue he bore to his mother, yet forced with feare of both their enſuing infamies, he tooke his fainting farewell. Thus by theſe two infortunate louers, (as in the progreſſe of this

“ Hiſtorie ſhall be ſhewed) wee may ſee, How through
“ our owne will, and too much libertie, that ſmall incli-
“ nation which we haue to vertue, to be vtterly extingui-
“ ſhed and brought to nothing. The palme tree preſſed
downe, groweth notwithstanding but too faſt, the hearbe
Spartania, though troden on, groweth very tall; and youth,
although ſtrictly reſtrained, will proue but too ſtubborne.
“ The veſſell ſauoreth alwayes of that liquor, wherewith
“ it was firſt ſeaſoned, and the minde retaineth thoſe qua-
“ lities in age wherein it was trained vpon in youth. The
“ tender twigge is ſooner broken than the ſtrong branch,
“ the yong ſtem more brittle than the old ſtock, the weake
“ bramble ſhaken with euery winde, and the wauering
“ will of youth toſſed with euery puffe of vanitie, ready to
be

" bewracked in the waues of wantonneſſe, vnleſſe it bee
 " cunningly guided by ſome wiſe and warie Pylot. Where-
 fore, ſeeing youth is ſo eaſily intrapped with the alluring
 traine of fooliſh delights, and ſo ſoone intangled with the
 traſh of pernicious pleaſures; let vs not paſſe away our
 time in idleneſſe, leaſt happily, being taken at diſcouert,
 we become careleſſe captiues to Securitie: For when the
 mind once floteth in the ſurging ſeas of idle conceits, then
 the puffes of voluptuous delights, & the ſtifling ſtormes of
 vnbrideled fancy, the raging blaſts of alluring Beautie, and
 the ſturdie gale of glozing vanity, ſo ſhake the ſhip of reck-
 les youth, that it is daily in doubt to ſuffer moſt dangerous
 ſhipwracke. But let vs ſpend our time in reading ſuch anci-
 ent Authors, as may ſharpe our wits by their pithy ſayings,
 " & learne vs wiſdome by their perfect ſentences. For where
 " Nature is vitious, by Learning it is amended; and where it is
 " vertuous, by Skill augmented. The ſtone of ſecret vertue is
 " of greater price, if it be brauely poliſhed: the gold, though
 " neuer ſo pure of it ſelfe, hath the better colour, if it be burni-
 " ſhed: & the mind, though neuer ſo vertuous, is more noble,
 " if enriched with the gifts of Learning. But to my purpoſe.
 Not long after, *Amazias* hauing quatted the queſy ſtomaks
 of the rebels, & ſetting all things in order, returned with ſafe-
 ty to *Famogofa*, eſteemed famous for his peaceable gouern-
 ment; adminiſtring Juſtice with ſuch ſeueritie, and yet tem-
 pering the extremitie of the law, with ſuch lenitie, as he both
 gained the good will of ſtrangers, in hearing his vertue, and
 wonne the hearts of his ſubiects in feeling his bounty; coun-
 ting him vnworthy to beare the name of a ſoueraigne, who
 knew not according to deſart, to cheriſh & chaſtiſe his ſub-
 iects: and had not incontinent affection (which he vſed dai-
 ly) counteruailed his more royall diſpoſition, the ſtate of his
 ſoueraignty had bin beautified with inequalency. But the
 obliquity of this vice being firmly fortified in the center of
 his heart, could neither by the honeſt ſocietie with his Qu:
 any thing be mitigated, or through the immoderate & illicit
 acquaintaunce with others, ſomewhat diſcouraged. For prooſe
 whereof, on a day, after the Northern tēpeſts were quieted,

as he rode a hunting with certain of his Peeres, he stumbled by chance at a Farmers house, where hee espied a woman, homely attired, of modest countenance, her face imported both loue & grauitie; who seeing the King approach, dying her christall cheeks with a vermillion hue, after humble reuerence, brought him in a country Cruise, such drinke as their cottage did affoord. *Amazias* narrowly marking her proportion, courteously tooke his leaue and departed; but the sparkes of lust that had kindled a flame of Desire in his fancie, perplexed his mind with sundry passions: For calling to his consideration, not onely her exteriour beautie, adorned with sundry graces; but also her inward perfection, bewraing she was both wise and honest, hee fell into this discourse with himself. For shame *Amazias* let not thy thoughts wander in a Laborinth, to be endlesse, seeing the flower of thy youth hath bin spent in vice, let the fruite of thine age onely sauour of vertue: if the gods had not the Firstlings of thy yeres, yet let the haue thy gray head in pawne of a sacrifice. Time is a retrait from vanitie & vice; thy foot is stepping to the graue, & Opportunie bids thee take hold of repentance. *Venus* is printed without wrinkles, as signifying shee is the goddesse of youth: What of this fond foole? suppose thou wert yong, shalt thou therefore wallow in intemperance? do not the gods forbid thee to craue another mans due? are not voluptuous desires to be suppressed as wel in the yong sien, as in the old tree? is thy fancy so fickle, as euery face must be viewed with affection? Fond man, think this, that the poore man makes as great account of his wife, as the greatest Monarch in the world doth of an Empreffe; that honestie harbours as soone in a cottage, as in the court; that their mindes oppressed with want, are freed from the vanities of loue. The *Amazias*, cease these friuolous suppositions, and seekenot so much as in thought, to offer wrong to so modest a woman, whose honest behauiour foretewes, that as she is poore, so shee is chaste, and holdeth as deere the price of her fame, as the state of her life. No doubt *Amazias* thou art become a very holy Prelate, that hast so many precepts to refell

that thou haſt alwaies followed. Is not Loue a Lord, as well amongſt Beggars as Kings? Cannot *Cupid* as ſoone hit a ſhepheards hooke, as a ſcepter? Doth not Pouertie by naturall in-ſight yield to the deſires of Maieſtie? Are womens faces alwaies Kalenders of Truth, or are their lookes (as *Ouid* affirmeth) euer Mind-glaſſes? No, the thoughts of women hang not alwaies in their eies, Diſſimulation iſſiſter to *Ianus*, and wanton appetite, oftentimes jetteth vnder the maſke of Chaſtitie. Haſt thou hitherto not bin repulſed with any reſolute denials, and ſhalt thou now be ouerthrowne with a looke? No, forward *Amazias* in thy purpoſe, triumph man, and ſay as *Ceſar* did in his Conqueſts, *Veni, Vidi, Vici*. The King reſting vpon this wicked reſolution, met by chance the husband of the wife comming from Plough, who ſeeing *Amazias*, did his dutie in moſt humble manner. The King thinking to take opportunitie at the rebound, thought now he had very good meanes to know the diſpoſition of the woman, and her husbands name, that hee might make repaire thither, to proſecute his wicked purpoſe. He began therefore to inquire of the man where he dwelt: the poore Farmer, calling to minde that he had a faire wife, was not willing to tell the place of his abode, made answer, Vpon the Forreſt ſide. What is he (quoeth *Amazias*) that dwels at yonder Grange place (for they were in view of the houſe,) and if thou canſt (quoeth he, goe ſo farre) tell me what your neighbours ſay of his faire wife? The man was amazed at this queſtion, ſuſpecting that, which indeed prooued true; though his apparell was ſimple, yet hauing a ſubtill wit, made him this answer. The man (my Liege) is poore, but honeſt; his name *Lewſohiln*, a Farmer by profeſſion, loued of his neighbours, for that he neuer enuieſth his ſuperiors, nor grudgeth at his equals; fauoured of the gods; in that amidſt his pouertie, he hath a contented minde, and a wife that is beautifull, wiſe, and honeſt: whoſe life is ſo vertuous, that our Countrie wiues take her actions as a Preſident, whereby they may gouerne their fame and credit: in ſo much, that ſhee is not ſo much praised for her beautie,

beautie, as shee is reuerenced for her chastitie. *Amazias* contented with this reply, rode his way, and the poore man in a dumpe went home to his wife, to whom he reuealed the effect of the Kings demaund: shee willing her husband to repose his wonted trust in her good behauiour, quieted his mind with the hope of her constancie; but the like rest happened not vnto the King. For he, incensed by the praises of her vertues, fell into such a restless *Chaos* of confused passions, that he could take no rest till the night was passed in broken slumbers. The next morning, taking Loue onely for his guide, priuatly he went to the Farmers house, where finding her with one of her maides in the midst of her huf-wiferie, he stood a prettie while, taking a viewe of her exquisite perfection; till at the last, the goodwife espied him, (who, nothing dismaied with his presence, for that beeing forewarned, shee was fore-armed) gaue him after her homely fashion, a Countrie welcome. The King sate downe, and finding some talke, began to discourse with her, about her well ordered house, and other matters, that by a long insinuation, he might the better fall to his purpose. The poore woman, whose name was *Ballinea*, was as busie as a Bee, to set before *Amazias* such rurall junkets, as the Plough affords, making fewe answers; till at last the King, after hee had tasted of her delicates, taking her by the hand, framed his speech in this manner.

Ballinea, I will not make a long haruest, for a small crop; nor goe about to pull *Hercules* shooe, vpon *Achilles* foote; Orations are needelesse, where necessitie forceth, and "the shortest preamble is best, where Loue puts in his plea: "therefore, omitting all friuolous prattle, know, that as well at the sight of thy Beautie, as by the report of thine Honesty, affection hath so fettered me in the snares of fancie, that for my best refuge, I am come to thy sweet selfe, to craue a salue for those passions, which no other can appease. I deny not, but thou hast both Loue, and Law, to withhold thee from this perswasion: and yet we know, women haue their seuerall friends. *Venus*, though shee loues with one eie, yet

she can look with th' other. *Cupid* is neuer so vnprovided, but he hath two arrowes of one temper. Offences are not measured by proportion, but by secrecy: *Si non castè tamen causè*, If not chastely; yet charily: thou maist both winne a frind, and preserue thy fame, yea *Ballinea*, such a friend whose countenance shal shrowd thee from enuy, and whose plentie shall free thee from penurie. I will not stand longer vpon this point, let it suffice, that in louing me, thou shalt reap preferment, and in denying my suite purchase to thy husband, and thy selfe, such an hatefull enemy, as to requite thy deniall, will seeke to preiudice thee with all mishaps. *Ballinea*, who knew the length of his arrow, by the bent of his bow, (resolued rather to taste of any misery, than for lucre to make shipwracke of hir chastity) returned him this sharp answer. Indeed, my Liege, a lesse haruest might haue serued for so bad corne, that how warily soeuer you gleane, it will scarce proue worth the reaping. Tru it is, that preambles are friuolous, that perswade men to such follies: therefore, had you spar'd this speech, your credit had bin the more, & your labor lesse. If on the sodaine my beauty hath inueagled you (for as for my virtue you hazard but a suppose, sith oftentimes report hath a blister on her tong) I must blame your eye that is bleer'd with euery object, & accuse such a mind as suffers honor to be suppressed with affection, & (my Lord) soone ripe soone rotten, hot loue is soone cold. Mens fancies are like fire in straw, that flames in a minute, & ceaseth in a moment: But to return you a denial with your own objection: true it is that I am tide to my husband both by loue & law, which to violate, both the gods and nature forbids vs, vnles by death. *Venus* may loue & look as she list, & at last proue hirselfe but a wanton; hir inordinate affections, are no presidents wherby to direct my actions. And whereas you say
 “ Offences are measured by secrecie; I answer, Euery thing is
 “ transparent to the sight of the gods, their diuine eyes pierce
 “ into the hart and thoughts; & they measure not reuenge by
 “ dignity, but by iustice. For preferment, knowe (mighty
 “ prince) ther are no greater riches than content, nor no gre-
 ter

ter honor than quiet: I esteeme more of fame than of gold, &,,
rather chuse to die chaste than liue rich, threatnings are small,,
perswasions, & little is her honesty that preferres life before,,
credit. Therefore may it please you, this is my determined,,
resolution, which take from me as an Oracle, that as prefer-
ment shall neuer perswade me to be vnchaste, so death shall
neuer disswade me from being honest. *Amazias* hearing this
rough replie of the woman, was driuen into a maruellous
choller, so that skarce affording her a farewell, he flung out
of doores, and going to horse, he hied home to the court. The
goodwife glad that he tooke the matter so in snuffe, com-
manded her maid to say nothing to hir master, lest it should
disquiet his minde. But the King impatient of this deniall,
thought that the Citie which would not yield at the parley,
might be conquered by an assault; and that which in treaty
could not command, force would constraine: therefore he
commanded one of his Peeres, whom he made priuie to
his practise, to giue him warning to depart out of his house,
but with this *promiso*, that if his wife were found tractable,
then she should remaine there still. The Noble man fulfil-
ling his Soueraignes command, proued straight by experi-
ence, that it was as possible to force the streame against his
course, or the earth to ascend from his center, as to draw her
minde from vertue and honestie: and therefore, contrarie to
all law and conscience, charged them to leaue their liuings.
The poore man, after his wife had made him priuie to the
cause of their suddaine calamitie, tooke it very patiently, &
chose rather to liue poorely content, then richly discredi-
ted: so that the prefixed time of his departure being come,
he quietly departed from the farme to a cottage, where his
wife and he liued as perfect louers in vnfeined affection. *A-*
mazias seeing his pollicie tooke small effect, impatient stil in
his restless passions, accompanied one day with 5 or 6 of his
nobles, taking the aduantage of the time, perforce brought
Balinea away, & priuily left two of his guard in ambush to
kil *Lewesohiln*. The neighbors hearing of this mischiefe, se-
cretly sent to *Lewesohiln*, where he was at plow, & forewarnd
him

him of all that *Amazias* had done, and intended.

The poore man seeing, that to strue with him, was to shoote against the Heauens, preferring life before wealth, euen as he was apparrelled, went farre from the place of his residence; and as a man in distresse, seeking seruice, went to a Collier, who entertained, and gaue him such wages, as hee deserued: where quietly, although disquieted in minde for the absence of his wife, he passed away a few daies. Diuerse were poore *Lewesobils* thoughts, for when hee considered
 “ the Chastitie of his wife, Suspition hidde her face for
 “ shame; but when he saw that womens thoughts are aspi-
 “ ring, and gape after preferment, and that the greatest as-
 “ fault to honestie, is Honour; he began to frowne: so that
 thus betweene Dread and Hope, he liued disquieted. But
 poore *Ballinea*, whose miserie was redoubled, by hearing of
 her husbands mishappe, powred out such continuall foun-
 taines of teares, as not onely *Amazias*, but all men tooke pi-
 tie of her plaints. But the vnbrideled furie of Lust, that
 while it runnes headlong into a Laborynth of mischiefes,
 feeleth no remorse, had no consideration of her daily sor-
 rowes, but resolued, if not by intreatie, at least by force, to
 come to the ende of his lasciuious desire. Which resoluti-
 on beeing knowne to *Ballinea*, from Praiers shee went to
 Pollicie, and therefore on the suddaine became more cour-
 teous, desiring *Amazias*, that he would giue her some space
 to forget her old Loue, and entertaine a new choice. Hee,
 whose fancy was somewhat appeased with this good speech,
 granted her the tearme of a Moneth, with free libertie to
 walke in the garden, and else-where at her pleasure. *Balli-
 nea* enioying her wish, so fortunately taking Time by the
 forehead, earely in a morning stole secretly from the Palace,
 and fledde into the Countrie; where, in the day time hiding
 her selfe amongst bushes, and in the night traouelling as fast
 as shee could; at last shee came to the place where her hus-
 band was with the Collier: and there changing her apparell
 into the attire of a man, and her head brauely shorne, shee
 became an handsome stripling. The next day, comming
 to

to the Cole-pits, she demanded seruice; The master Collier, seeing the youth well faced, had pittie of his want, and entertained him: and for that *Lewesobils* his man wanted one to driue his cart, he appointed *Ballinea* to attend vpon him. Shee thanking the gods that blest her with so fauourable a seruice, was brought to the fight of *Lewesobils*, and committed to his charge. *Lewesobils* pittying the poore estate of such a yong youth, noting narrowly the lineaments of her face, fell into fighes, & from fighes to teares, for the remembrance of his sweet *Ballinea*: who pittying her husbands plaints, in that she was a true deuiner of his thoughts, could not (as womens secrets oft hang at the tip of their tongues) but bewray to her husband what shee was: who, when he perfectly knew his wife, so strangely metamorphised; what for ioy of her presence, and sorrow that Fortune had made them both thus vnhappy, he fel into deeper complaints, till appeased by his wife, they went merrily to worke. But *Amazias* missing *Ballinea*, and after diligent searce, perceiuing she was stole away, fel into such a melancholy humour, that his subjects thought him halfe in a frenzie. He commanded horse to be made out into euery high way, all passages to be stopt, euery woman to be examined: but in vaine; which so increased his furie, that he inioyned an officer of his Court, (as wel qualified as himselfe) to search out (if it were possible) by his extraordinary industrie, the inauspicate conueiance of his loue. Who taking horse, rode vp and downe the countrie, as one halfe madde; but found not that he sought for. At last, Fortune enuying the happines of *Lewesobils*, and his wife, brought him where the Colliers were at worke: and a pretty space before he came at the Pit, he met *Ballinea*; who seeing him, although he had disguised himselfe, because he would ride vnknowne, yet perfectly perceiued what hee was; and therefore would willingly haue beene out of his company.

But hee calling vnto her, and shee hauing her leather coate all dustie, and her sweete face all besmeared with coales, was the bolder to goe; and demaunded of him what

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hee

he wanted? *Rawcikew* (for so was the mans name) inquired if such a woman passd not that way? yes mary (quoth *Ballinea*) there passd by such a one indeede, who as she reported, fled from *Amazias*, for that the King would haue deprivd her of her chastitie. Canst thou tell mee (quoth he) whither shee is gone? if I could (quoth *Ballinea*) thinke not so little courtesy in me, as to betray her; for by thy strait inquirie, I perceiue thou art seruant to that dishonourable Prince, that spareth neither wife nor widow, to satisfie his vnbrideled lust. *Rawcikew* not brooking these hard speeches, alighted from his horse, thinking to haue well bumbasted the boy; who, as fast as he could, fled to the Colepit. The colliers seeing their boy, (whom for his good behauiour, they all generally affected) to be misused by a Seruingman, tooke their whips in their hands, and demanded of *Rawcikew*, what hee meant to offer violence to any of their company? For that (quoth he) the boy hath greatly abused the King. *Ballinea* told them all the whole matter: which knowne, the Colliers wisht him, if he were well, to be packing. *Rawcikew* seeing amongst such an vnruely company, he could not mend himselfe, went his way with a flea in his eare; and as he rode, perceiued where *Lewesobilt* lay asleep; who was not so disguised, but he knew him perfectly: thinking therefore, when hee did awake, to learne something out of him; and so turning his horse into a close hard by, rested himselfe behind a bush. Long he had not sate, before *Ballinea* came merrily whistling with her cart, & told her husband all what had happened; who both smiled that the officer had such rough entertainment, as also, that so cleanly shee had deceiued him. *Rawcikew*, who ouerheard them, and perceiued that the youth whom hee tooke for a stripling, was *Ballinea* the poore mans wife; felt such a remorse in his conscience, that the King should offer violence to so vertuous and chaste a mind, that as soone as they were gone, he posted as fast as he could to the Court, & reuealed vnto *Amazias* the whole matter: who greatly pleased with the discourse, desirous againe to see so honest a wife, presently dispatcht a Pursuant to command the Colliers

lier to bring his man *Lewesobin*, & his boy before him. The Pursuant sparing no horse-flesh, came so fast from the court, that he found them al at dinner: who, after they heard his message, were amazed; especially poore *Ballinea*, who feared some new misfortune: yet cheering her selfe, the better to comfort her husband, they went with the Pursuant to the Court: where beeing brought before *Amazias*, *Rawcickew* complained of the Collier, how he had abused his Maiestie, in maintaining his boy to giue him euil language. The Collier (as a man amazed) confessed his fault, and therefore desired the Nobles which were standing by, to be his good Lords and Masters. *Amazias*, who all this while had his eie vpon *Ballinea*, asked her what he was? May it please your Grace (quoth she) I am seruant to this man, who is owner of the pit, but vnder this other, who is ouerseer of my work: so then (quoth the King) you serue two masters, the one by day, and the other by night. Nay my Liege (quoth *Ballinea*) but one master, for wee make small account of any seruice that is done in the night. How say you sirra (quoth the king to *Lewesobin*) is not this boy your man? No my Lord (quoth he) onely my bed-fellow, and that is all the seruice I craue at his hands. At this answer, the King and the Noble men smiled, and *Ballinea* fearing she was discovered, began to blush: which *Amazias* perceiuing, demanded of her, of what age she was? About 18. my Liege (quoth she). *Amazias* willing to trie then, what the euent would be, told the collier that he and his man, for that their faults were through ignorance, might get them home: but for your boy (quoth the King) seeing he is so young, and well faced, I meane to make him my Page. The Collier was glad hee was so dispatcht; but poore *Lewesobin*, through aboundance of grieve was almost driuen into an extasie; so that changing colour, hee could skarce stand on his legs: which *Ballinea* perceiuing, seeing now Fortune had done her worst, resolved to suffer all miseries whatsoeuer: falling down therfore vpon her knees, she vnfolded to the King what she was, & from point to point, discoursed what had happened between her & *Rawcickew*, in-

termedling her speeches with such a fountaine of teares, as the King pittying her plaints, willed her to bee of good cheere; for neither hee, nor any other in all his kingdome, should offer her any violence. Mooued therefore with a certaine compunction, hee was not onely content to bridle his affections, but to indowe her with such sufficient lands, and possessions, as might very wel maintaine her in the estate of a gentlewoman; who with her husband, long after liued in a most prosperous and happie estate.

These and such like irregular proceedings of the King, did without doubt, occasionate a farre greater presumption of offending to *Cleodora* and *Eliosto*, after that inexpiable manner then vnto which by their owne inclination, they
 “ would haue bin instigated. But we must not looke what
 “ men doe, but what men ought to do: it is ill going to Hel,
 “ though with a thousand companions. Wel, *Eliosto* was at length so intricated in the gins of affection, and so intangled with the trappe of fancie, so perplexed in the laborynth of pinching loue, and so enchanted with the charmes of *Venus* forcerie; that as the Elephant reioyceth greatly at the sight of a Rose, as the birds *Halciones* delight to viewe the feathers of the Phoenix, and as nothing better contenteth a Roe bucke, than to gaze at a red cloth; so was there no obiekt that could allure the wauering eies of *Eliosto*, as the surpassing beautie of his mother *Cleodora*: yea, his onely blisse, pleasure, ioy, and delight, was in feeding his desires, with staring on the heauenly face of his goddesse. But alas, her beautie in the ende wrought his bane; her lookes, his woe; her sight, his miserie; her exquisite perfections, his vtter ouerthrow: that as the Ape, by seeing the Snaile is infected; as the Leopard falleth in a trance at the sight of the Locust; as the Cockatrice dieth with beholding the Chrysolite; so poore *Eliosto* was pinched (as the consequence of this Historie manifesteth) to the heart, with viewing her comely countenance, was griped with execrable calamity, and tortured with insupportable torments, by gazing on the gallant beautie of so gorgeous a dame.

Neither

Neither did *Cleodoraes* miſhaps faile to accompany *Elioſtoes* extremities with correſpondencie: for ſhe ſo framed in hir imaginations the forme of his face, and ſo imprinted in her hart the perfection of his perſon, that the remembrance thereof would not ſuffer her (exempted from his company) to take any reſt: but then paſſed the day in dolour, the night in ſorrow, no minute without mourning, & no houre without heauineſſe, till at length the vengeance of the gods, iſſuing forth like thunder eclipsed the bright ſunne-ſhine of their felicitie with the *Cimmerian* blackneſſe of confuſion. In the meane time, Fortune willing to aduaunce them to the top of her inconstant wheele, ſundry times preſented them with opportunity for the fruition of their deſires, and conueniencie for the diſcourſe of their mutuall affections: which thing *Elioſto*, through conſonancie found moſt true: for on a day as he eſpied his Lady and Loue walking alone in the Garden, his ſenſes, by that ſoddaine ſight, was ſo reuiued, that without any dread or doubt, he manfully marched towards her, and was as haſtily as heartily encountred by *Cleodora*, who embracing him in her armes, welcomed him with this ſalutation. As the whale (*Elioſto*) maketh alwayes ſigne of great ioy at the ſight of the fiſh called *Talpa Marina*, as the lion fawneth at the view of the vnicorne, and as he which drinketh of the fountaine *Hypanis* in *Scythia* feelleth hiſ mind ſo drowned in delight, that no griefe, though neuer ſo great, is able to aſſwage it; ſo *Elioſto* I conceiue ſuch ſurpaſſing pleaſure in thy preſence, and ſuch heavenly felicitie in the ſight of thy perfection, that no miſery, though neuer ſo violent, is able to aſtoniſh me; no diſtreſſe, though neuer ſo hatefull, is able to amaze mee; nor any miſ-happe, though neuer ſo perillous, is able to make me ſinke in ſorrow, ſo long as I enioy thy preſence, which I account a ſoueraigne preſeruatiue againſt all carefull calamities: that as hee which taſteth of the hearb *Hyacinthus* is neuer cumbred with trouble; and as hee which weareth the ſtone *Agathes* about him, is ſurely defended againſt all enſuing ſorrows, ſo enioying the aſpect of thy ſeemly ſelfe, and feeding mine

eyes with the forme of thy feature, I thinke my selfe sufficiently shrowded against all the tempestuous showres of sinister Fortune: and to proue these my promises to be no fained vanities, but faithfull veritie, I committe my selfe and state into thy hands, to dispose of me at thy pleasure; wishing rather to liue with thee in most opprobrious penurie, than to linger heere in most fortunate prosperitie. *Eliosto* listning attentiuely to this sugred harmony, was so enthralled with the sight of her sweet face, and so rapt into a trance with the contemplation of her beautie, that as the lion tasting of the gumme Arabicke, becomes senslesse; as the bull by browsing on the barke of a juniper tree, falleth asleepe; as the camell standeth astonished at the sight of a rat, so *Eliosto* seeing in his armes the Saint whome in heart he did honour, and embracing the goddesse whome with most deep deuotion he did adore, was so amazed, that he was not able to vtter one word, or witnesse of his happinesse, vntil at last, gathering his wittes together, hee beganne thus to re-
plie.

Cleodora (quoth he) it is an axiome in Philosophie, that the colour ioyned hard to the sight, hindreth the sence; the floure put into the nostrill stoppeth the smelling; the wine vessell being full, lets passe no wine, though neuer so well vented; the water-pot being filled to the brimme, yeeldeth forth no liquor, though hauing a thousand holes; so where the minde is furcharged with ouermuch ioy, or too much pleasure, there the tongue is both tied, and the senses so re-
itained, that the heart is neither able to conceiue the ioy, nor the tongue of power to expresse the pleasure, which *Cleodora* I now speake by prooffe, and know by experience; for I am so drowned in delight by enioying that princely jemme, which I esteeme the rarest and richest jewel, not only in *Cyprus*, but in all the world, so am I puffed vp in pleasure by thy diuine presence. Yea thy faithfull and vnfaigned affection, the promise of thy constancy, and the hope of thy loyaltie, the force of thy beauty, and the fame of thy
vertue;

vertue; but aboue all, thy prodigall bountie, in bestowing these heauenly perfections on thy poore *Eliosto*, so surchargeth my feelie heart with excessiue ioy, that my tongue not being able in part to expresse the extreame pleasure of my minde, I am with *Philistion* the Comickall Poet constrained by silence to vnfolde that affection, which in words the filled phrase of *Demosthenes* were not able to descipher. But this assure thy selfe *Cleodora*, that if *Iuno* would aduaunce me to be Monarch of the world, if *Pallas* would preferre me to exceed haughty *Hercules* in valour, if *Venus* would present me with some princely peere of heauenly complexion, yet would I not so gladly receiue their proffers, as I doe gratefully accept the promise of thy loue and loyalty. No, I doe gladly account the treasure of *Cræsus* to be but trash, in respect of the guerdon of thy good will, I account the fortune of *Cæsar* but follie, respecting the fruites of thy fauour, I doe esteeme the dignities of *Priamus* as dregs in respect of thy diuine perfection. Yea *Cleodora*, I am so snared with thy beauty, and so intangled in the trappe of thy bounty, as I shall neuer leaue to loue, nor euer beginne to like any other. It is easie *Eliosto* (quoth *Cleodora*) to purchase credite where the partie is already perswaded, and to inferre beliefe, where euery word is esteemed as an Oracle. Therefore omitting these friuolous protestations, thus I say touching the purpose. *Cecilius Metellus* was wont to say, that as it was necessary that olde men should be graue in counsaile, so it was expedient yong men should be secret in loue; and therefore when the contract was made betweene *Fulvius* and his daughter, he sealed vp their lippes with his signet, meaning, that to violate the secret conference of Louers, was to commit a second sacrilege. I speake this of *Eliosto*, as one carefull of thy state: for if *Amazias* thy father should but once heare of our loue, or suspect our liking, it would breed thy euerlasting miserie, and my eternall calamitie.

Dispose of our affaires at thy pleasure, but discouer not our purposes, if thou hast won the castle, vaunt not on the conquest,

conquest, if thou hast made a good market, bragge not of thy gaines, lest by boasting of thy bootie, thou heereafter be deprived of thy expectation, and in the meane time bee deemed a pratler. And *Elioslo*, aboue all men beware of *Rawciken*, lest vnder the shape of a friend he prooue in time thy mortall foe, lest his fained amitie prooue faithlesse enmitie, that in trusting too much without triall, thou finde not treason, and then, though thou repent, yet had-I-wist commeth too late, and so thou wish thou hadst neuer loued, and I neuer liked: for his suspitious speculations pretends mistrust, and his praestigious actions discover infidelitie.

“ I tell thee *Elioslo*, in the fairest sandes is most ficklenesse,
 “ out of the brauest blossome, most commonly springeth
 “ the worst fruite, the finest floure seldome hath the best
 “ smell, the most glittering stone hath oftentimes the least
 “ vertue, and in the greatest shew of good will, lies oftentimes
 “ the smallest effect of friendshippe; in most flattery, least
 “ faith; in the fairest face, the falsest heart; in the smoothest
 “ tale, the smallest trueth; and in the sweetest gloses, most
 “ sowre ingratitude. Yea I see that in trust lies treason,
 “ that faire wordes make fooles faine, and that the state of
 “ such men, is like vnto the marygold, which as long as the
 “ Sunne shineth, openeth her leaues; but with the least
 “ cloud beginneth to close, like the Violets in *America*,
 “ which in summer yeeld an odoriferous smell, and in winter
 “ a most pestilent saueur: so these parasites in prosperitie
 “ professe most, but in aduersitie performe least.
 “ When Fortune fauoreth, they laugh, when she frowneth,
 “ they lowre, at euery full sea they flourish, but at euery
 “ dead neape they tade; like to the fish *Palerna*, which
 “ being perfectly white in the calme, yet turneth passing
 “ blacke at euery stormie; to the trees in the desarts of *Africa*
 “ that flourish but while the south winde bloweth; or
 “ to the Celedonie stone, which retaines his vertue no longer
 “ than when it is rubbed with golde. Sith then *Elioslo*
 “ (quoth she) there is such falshood in friendship, and such
 “ faithlesse deedes in such painted speeches, shake both *Raw-*
ciken

off, and other fawning cures, with the flagge of De-
fiance, and from hence forth, trie ere thou trust. Tush *Cleo-
dora* (quoth *Eliosto*) he that is afraid to venture on the buck,
because he is tapisht in the briars, shall neuer haue Hunters
hap; and he that puts his doubt in loue for euery chaunce,
shall neuer haue louers lucke. Can not the Cat catch mice,
without shee haue a bell hanging at her eare? Can not the
Hobbie seize on his prey, but hee must checke? cannot the
Spaniel retriue the Partridge, but hee must quest? and can-
not we deale so warily, but all the world must wonder at it?
Yes, it is a subtil bird that builds among the aerin of hawks,
and a shifting sheepe that lambes in the Foxes denne; and
he shall looke narrowly that spies me halting. Let my fa-
ther, not onely weigh our workes, but our words; and let
Rawcikon both deeme our deedes, and diuine our thoughts;
and yet I hope we will deale so secretly in our affaires, as
neither the one shall haue cause to suspect our familiaritie,
nor the other to detect our affection. And therefore *Cleodo-
ra*, lest (if we be spied) the time and place giue occasion of
mistrust, I will leaue you as I found you, and so farewell.

Well, these two Louers placed thus by Fortune in the
palace of earthly prosperitie, floated so securely in the
streames of blisse, as they thought no chippes of mischance,
might change their present happinesse to future heauines,
as long as their priuy meetings were kept so secret to them-
selues. But as they which cannot see fire in the straw are stone
blind, so hee that cannot see the flame of fancie is a foole. It
is hard to couer smoake, but more hard to conceale Loue; “
which these two louers in tract of time found verified: who
as closely as they kept their cloake, yet it was most easie to
espie the lining: for fancie secretly restrained, is like “
the sparke couered with ashes, which at length bursteth “
into a flame. For there passed betweene *Eliosto* and *Cle-
odora*, such amorous glaunces, such louing lookes, such cur-
teous congies, such countenances, and such friendly famili-
arity, such often meetings, such open salutations, such sighs,
such

such sobbes, and such strange passions, as not onely *Rancie-
ken*, but all the Court (though they poore soules thought to
daunce in a net, and not be seene) perceiued how entirely
they loued, and liked each other. Which thing by *Rancie-
ken* being discried, as a man whose minde either greatly la-
bouring with the inconstant winde of voluble promotion,
or not a little suffocated with the pestilent sting of virulent
malice, vowed the contemplation of their proceedings
with serpentine vigilancie. Whose determinate in-
tention, by vnhappy occasion of the inter-
cedencie of more weighty occurrences,
for a season we will not in-
terrupt.



most court a shulphou suis aristo and liba, poudifon



THE SECOND BOOK E.



Then the Ambition of aspiring gouernors obscured the glorie of the Cyprian kingdome, and the Maiestie of so famous a Monarchy was rent into pettie Regiments: When *Macedonia*, the nurse of Factions, was more infected with inward mutinies, than infested with outward hostilitie; then *Cyprus*, still the wonder, earst of immeasurable greatnesse, now of incomparable basenesse; earst the ioyfull receiuer of triumphing souldiers, and pompous harbour of renowned Conquerors, now the sorrowfull spectacle of Times inconstancie, Fortunes spight, and Honours incertaintie: More famous for the ruines of her former dignitie, than fortunate in the reliques of ambitious furie, was no lesse troubled with tumults in the wane of her glorie, than in the height of her praise; warring with her selfe, within the compasse of her owne walles; and moist with the blood of men, streaming through the channels, which renewed the lamentable memorie of former miseries: but the greatest extreames are least permanent. *Mars* thus ruffling in this martiall Isle, was crost by counter-working of some other god: for *Cupid* grieved that he could fasten no shafts in their flintie hearts, whose eares were stopped from loues inticing, by the continuall clattering of Armour, a melodie not fitting his mothers humour; sware solemnly to alter this, or spend all the shafts in his quiver. Each part wearied with daieily

massacres, did for a certaine time conclude a Truce from Armes.

Thus had the wily wagge meanes to effect his strata-geme: The two chiefe of these two Factions, had each a child; the one a sonne, the other a daughter; both so graced with rare qualities of the minde, so endued with perfections of the bodie, that they seemed the mirror of that age, and wonder of their time. To these ornaments was added the friendly fauour of smiling Fortune, so largely bestowed, that the summe of *Aristotles* felicitie might seeme to bee in them accomplished. *Dibnobin* (for so was he named) passing oft in this time of truce by the house of his fathers enemy, and viewing *Gatefinea*, (so was shee called) felt himselfe surprised with a suddaine change; and so long hee carried loue in his eies, that at last it sunke downe to his heart: and his affection was so much the more vehement, how much the lesse his loue seemed possible to be obtained. *Gatefinea* seeing *Dibnobin* yong and faire, began first earnestly to looke, then secretly to like; and lastly, so deeply to loue; that as her happe was without hope, so were her passions without patience.

Thus these two louers vnited with an vnknown sympathy of affections, smothering their secret thoughts in hateful silence, liu'd discontent, not knowing how to cure so dangerous a disease. Shee voide of comfort reuealed her loue to her nurse, praising *Dibnobin* and complaining of her hard fortune, and the unhappie discord of those two noble families, whose dissention was the onely obstacle of her desire. The old nurse, though sorie that her yong mistresse was so affected, yet thinking it impossible to alter her settled resolution, did apply a medicine of comfort, to mitigate the extremity of her sorrow; not vsing dissuasions, for well shee knew, that struing to quench the fire, shee should more increase the flame.

But *Dibnobin* seeking accesse vnto his mistresse, found (for what cannot Loue atchieue) that the chamber of *Gatefinea* being in the backe part of her fathers house, stood towards a garden,

garden, having one window looking into a little narrow lane, through which none, or very few, and they very seldom did passe.

When *Tuan* hasting to plunge his fierie chariot in *Thesis* lappe, had gladded *Oceanus* with his returne, the tormented Louer taking a Lute in his hand, went to the place, which so late he found, and there did in sad melodic sound foorth his sorrowes.

Gatesinea wondring to heare musicke at her windowe, looked out, and discerned her beloued *Dihnobin*, whose affections when shee sawe like her owne, shee was rauished with incredible ioyes, and had presently vttered some signe of her content, had not maidenly modestie, and the presence of her nurse staid her: who perswaded her, that hauing *Dihnobin* at the aduantage, shee should not so easily offer her loue, lest hee might little esteeme it, hauing so lightly got it. The perplexed Louer repairing oft to his accustomed place, with more pleasure to *Gatesinea*, than content to himselfe, resolved in the ende, to make a full triall of his good or badde fortune, and no more to vse such dumbe demonstrations. Comming therefore late, as he was wont, to the window, he tarried till he perceiued by some signes, that his mistresse was come into her chamber, accompanied onely with her nurse: then fingring his Lute, and framing his voice, he vtter'd this passionate Dittie, making euery rest, a deepe-fetched sigh.

Dihnobins Sonnet.

*I rashly vow'd (fond wretch why did I so?)
When I was free, that Love should not inthrall me:
Ah foolish beast, the cause of all my woe,
And this misfortune that doth now befall me.
Loves God incens'd, did sweare that I should smart,
That done, he shot, and strooke me to the heart.*

Sweet was the wound, but bitter was the paine

Elioslo Libidinoso.

*Sweet is the bondage to so faire a creature,
If coie thoughts doe not Beeties brightnesse staine,
Nor crueltie wrong so diuine a feature.*

*Loue, pittie mee, and let it quite my cost,
By Loue to finde, what I by Loue haue lost.*

*Heau'ns pride, Earths wonder, Natures peerelesse choice,
Faire harbour of my soules decaying gladnesse,
Yield him some ease, whose faint and trembling voice,
Doth sue for pittie ouerwhelm'd with sadnesse.*

*In thee it rests, faire Saint, to saue or spill
His life, whose loue is ledde by Reasons will.*

Scarce had he finished this sorrowfull Sonnet, when *Gatesinea* opening the casement, cast him downe a Garland, compacted of sundry sweet smelling floures, which she had gathered in her fathers garden, making that her afternoons taske. *Dibnokin* taking vp the fauour which his Mistris had throwne him, and redoubling many kisses on that cie-pleasing object, departed the happiest aliue, proude that shee had applauded his humour, and grac'd his conceit with so faire a guerdon. But *Gatesinea* restlesse in her passions, could not be satisfied, till she had conceiued some possible means of *Dibnokin*s, and her meeting. Loue the whetstone of wit, brought this possibilitie to a plaine likelihoode; and proceeding a steppe farther, made this likelihoode seeme a certaintie, and thus it was: she had a doore out of her chamber into the garden, and out of the garden ther was a litle doore that opened into the narrow lane, whither *Dibnokin* was accustomed to come, who being that way let in, they might, as she thought, there safely conferre of their loue. This doubt onely rested, how *Dibnokin* might be certified of *Gatesineas* deuise; which taske the Nurse vndertooke, promising such care in the deliuerie of her message, that no suspition should thence arise. Which promise she fully performed, and knowing that great trouble might grow of that enterprise, if she seruing the enemy of *Dibnokin*s father, and waiting on his daughter,

daughter, were seene openly to talke with *Dihnobin*, she v-
sed such warinelle and secrecie, that he was by her certified
of *Gatesinea*s purpose, without suspition or discouery of her
intent. *Dihnobin* liberally rewarded the nurse for her lucky
tidings, willing her to doe his humble duety to his mistris,
and assure her of his diligent attendaunce at the appoynted
time & place. The two louers longing for nights approch,
thought *Phæbus* envying their blisse, did slacke his course
more than he was wont, declining too slowly. But when a
generall darkenesse had ouerspread the earth, and dayes
light was eclipsed by *Titan*s departure to the other Hemi-
sphere, *Dihnobin* comming to the garden doore, was let in
by the Nurse, and louingly receiued of *Gatesinea*. What
greetings were vsed when the two louers met, they can best
conceiue that haue knowne like fortune. But when com-
mon cerimonies of curtesie had passed betweene them, they
retired into the Arbour, and the Nurse withdrew herselfe
from them: there they discoursed their loue each to other,
and finding their affections equall, they mutually reioy-
ced.

Dihnobin folded in the armes of his mistris, and kissing
her at his pleasure, thought himselfe in a second heauen:
but presuming to proceed further: *Gatesinea*, whether plea-
sed, or offended with his amorous attempts, I knowe not,
halfe in anger thrust backe his hand, saying, that as shee lo-
ued him, so she regarded her honour. Whereto *Dihnobin* re-
plied, that hee tendred her honour more than his owne life;
protesting that if she would vouchsafe to accept him for hir
husband (the onely meanes to establishe their loue, and pre-
serue her name from blemish) that then there should want
in him no endeouours to doe her seruice, with more affection
than he could expresse. This fell out as *Gatesinea* wished,
and therefore she graunted that which so much he desired;
the Nurse was called for a witnesse, in whose presence *Dih-
nobin* gaue *Gatesinea* a ring.

Thus were the Nuptials secretly finished, not graced
with the presence of *Hymen*, the President of marriage rites,
but

but thwarted with the fatall influence of some vnluckie Planet, comically begunne, tragically ended, and both in the dreadfull silence of the darke some night. Thus they beeing Man an Wife, or at least, so seeming to themselves, *Gatesinea* with her new spouse, returned into her bed-chamber, and the nurse departing, both dis-robing themselves, entred in one bedde, and did freely possesse the full fruition of that, which hee so earnestly pursu'd, shee so willingly granted, and both so much desired.

When day appeared, and *Phabus* posting from the *Antipodes*, had remounted the Eastern hill, and burnished Heaven with his glittering beames, *Dihnobin* leauing his mistresse, departed that way by which he came. In this sort they long enjoyed each others company, till Fortune, Loues sworne enemy shadowed their blisse, with a cloud of mishap. *Dihnobins* father, seeing him well growne in yeres, hauing past the spring time of his child-hood, told him on a time, he had provided him a wife, worthy his better, both for birth and wealth.

Dihnobin astonished at these wordes, stood like one of those whom *Perseus* with his *Gorgons* head transformed into stones: but beeing forced to answer, hee told his father that he had setled his fancie, and made his choice in another place: his father furiously demanding where, he fearefully, though with many delaies, reuealed his loue to *Gatesinea*. The old man beeing in a rage, commanded him forthwith to depart his house; threatening besides, to dispossesse and dis-inherit him. *Dihnobin* seeing his father in these termes, thought it best to dissemble; and crauing pardon, submitted himselfe wholly to his direction: who glad to see his sonne in such a vaine of obedience, thought it not good to vse delaies, but presently dispatcht the mariage, feating a suddaine change of so suddaine a conformitie.

Thus *Dihnobins* second espousals beeing finished, he fur-charged with sorrow, wrote a letter to *Gatesinea*, containing a sad rehearfall of that vnluckie accident, imputing all to the force of his fathers threats, still promising and protesting

sting that she only had the possession of his heart; and vowing, that no sooner the breath should be out of his fathers body, but he would reiect his new loathed wife, and receiue her, and so ending all discord, ioyned the two factions in one. Lastly, he aduertised her, what time she should expect his comming. This letter *Dihnobin* caused to be conueied to her by a trustie messenger. *Gatesinea* hauing receiued and perused it, was ouerwhelmed with such vnwoonted sorrow, that she swowned presently, and hardly could the sorrowfull Nurse recall her fainting spirites: but when she was come againe to herselfe, ieaousie the mother of extreame hate, turned her teares into threats, and conuerted her feminine anger into flatte fury. Thus resolving on reuenge, she awaited a fit time to effect her tragicall purpose. *Dihnobin* failed not to come at the appoynted time, and being let into the garden by the Nurse, was receiued at the chamber doore by *Gatesinea*, to whom he made a long excuse of his fault committed, attributing it to the feare of his fathers menaces: she, though griped with griefe, vsed such moderation in hir outward gesture, that *Dihnobin* could not ghesse her thoughts by her lookes, nor coniecture her passions by her speeches. Night being farre spent, they went both to bed, where *Dihnobin* desirous to renew his woonted sports, was hindered by *Gatesinea*, who tolde him that hee should no more haue the fruition of that fauour, till hee had made her a sufficient recompence for the fault committed: he halfe discontent with this repulse, turnd aside to take his last and longest sleepe; whereinto when he was entred, she perceiuing him so soundly settled, that hee could not easely be awaked, rose vp, and taking a knife which for that purpose she had layd vnder the beddes head, shee stabbed him cruelly to the heart, saying thus; Most treacherous heart, the faithlesse harbour of disloyall thoughts, receiue the fattall guerdon due to thy deserts, I will not die vnreuenged as *Dido*, nor liue discontent as *Medea*, who failed in the sexe, and therefore in the certaintie of her reuenge, *Qui fecit patitur*. That said, she redoubled her bloody stroke, casting a

M

sterne

ſteerne aſpect on poore *Dihnobin*, which lay weltring in his blood. What remorceleſſe Scythian, or ſauage Tartarian, nourished in the deſarts beyond *Tanaïs*, could haue beheld ſo ruthfull a ſpectacle, and not be pierced with compaſſion? Yet ſhe, whoſe heart was more impenetrable than the adamant, ſeemd to triumph in his tragedy, loading his dying eares with reproachfull termes, and accusing him of diſloyalty: at which word *Dihnobin* lifting vp his eyes (thogh ſcarce he could liſt them) ſeemd with a milde countenance to ſue for pardon, in the extremitie of his puniſhment: but when ſhe ſtill frownd, he fetcht a deepe ſigh from the bot-tome of his griued heart, making that the laſt period of his loue and life. Scarce had the long imprifoned ſoule leauing the ſenſleſſe mould of earthly drowſe, returned to the bliſfull harbour whence it deſcended, when ſhee the ruthleſſe re-uenger of her owne crueltie, did with that knife which de- priued *Dihnobin* of loues joy, bereaue her ſelfe of liues com- fort, and inflicting a deadly wound, fell backward on the bed, fetching a grievous groane. The watchfull Nurſe whoſe eares were open to this vnwelcome ſound, fearing that which was too true, and doubting the welfare of her yong miſtris, came haſtily into the chamber, where ſeeing *Gateſinea* in that pittifull plight, ſhe ſtoode aſtoniſhed at ſo tragicall a chance; yet hoping that the ſtroke was not mor- tall, nor the danger paſt recouery, ſhe came to her, endeuo- ring to ſtoppe the wound. But *Gateſinea* drawing neere her end, violently thruſt her backe, ſaying thus; *Wonder not, for he hath his deſert, and I my deſire*; which wordes being ſpoken, ſhe gaue vp the ghoſt. The aged Nurſe which did more than heare, for ſhee plainly ſawe (thogh wiſhing ſhee had not ſeene) this unlucky accident, did ſcreech ſo lowd, that all they of the houſe awaked by her ſodaine out- cry, roſe from their reſt: and firſt *Gateſineas* father ſtarted vp, whoſe troubled thoughts preſaged ſome future miſhap.

„ Nor is it maruell that he did darkely foreknow, though he
 „ could not plainly foreſee ſo hard a chance: for as the ſmoke
 „ iſſues before the fire flames, the lightning is ſeene before
 the

the thunder be heard, the Sea swell before a tēpest arise, “
so the minde of man, whose continuall motion, is an in- “
fallible argument of a diuine and immortall essence, “
droopes before danger. The dismaied olde man slip- “
ping on his night-gowne, hastened his aged steps toward
his daughters chamber; where finding her dead, holding
the bloody knife in her hand, and seeing his enemies sonne
in the same bed with her, slaine likewise; what hee thought,
I referre to those that hauing one only jewell, their liues so-
lace, and soules comfort, are thereof depriued by the malice
offortune.

But he distracted with sundry passions, sometimes la-
mented his daughters misfortune, sometimes he threatened
the trembling nurse, then he bewailed the downefall of his
house, wanting an heire, and the extinguished memorie of
his name for lacke of succession. The silly woman falling
on her knees before him, besought him to deferre his pre-
tended reuenge on her, till shee had vnfolded the cause and
manner of that sorrowfull euent: which granted, shee
rehearsed their loues, meetings, secret nuptials, his second
marriage enforced by his angry fathers threats, and her de-
perate resolution of reuenge. This short and sorrowfull
discourse thus finished, shee halfe dead with age before,
nowe cleane dead with feare, yielded her spirit to him
which gaue it. The next morning, when the report of this
rare misfortune was bruted through the citie, the streete
wherein *Gatesmeaes* father dwelt, was so pestered with the
concourse of people, that scarce any passage could bee
found. This thus passing for currant newes through e-
uery mans mouth, *Dihnolins* father was soone aduertised
of it by the generall rumor; who, though astonished at so
rare a chance, yet suffered this misfortune with more cou-
rage than his yeeres could affoord, knowing that his ene-
mies fortune was no better than his owne.

Thus did the parents beare the childrens happe, whose
ghosts are nowe mette in the shadie groue of Mirtle trees,
fronting the *Elyzian* fieldes: that dreadfull groue, the e-

ternall mansion of those vnhappy louers, which witnesse their loyaltie to Loues hestes, by sacrificing their owne blood, and making their owne bodies oblations: and it was time, for till then his Deitie was despised, his Altars empty, his Temples not frequented.

*This groue planted is in Hell,
Darker groue was neuer scene:
Where life-loathing Louers dwell,
Haplesse haue those Louers beene:
Such oblations beauties treasure,
Loue receiues with ioy and pleasure.*

But this onely chance did mollifie their indurate hearts, which were before so inflamed with priuate malice, that they loathed publike agreement, But seeing in this infortunate couple, the lamentable effects of their dissention, they suddainly left Armes, & ioyning their hands, whose hearts had beene so long disioyned, they let fall their weapons, & embraced concord, the soueraigne stay of common weales. These two sorrowfull fathers, earst foes, and now by this misfortune made friends, were chiefe mourners at their childrens funerals; who beeing vnited by Loues lawes, had Loues right: for though their mindes were at their deaths diuided, yet were their bodies both in one tombe inclosed. *Amazias* was not so much perplexed at the information of these tidings, as well pleased, that at length these seditious stormes of ambitious enuie, were through an inuiolable league of amitie qualified, and quietly ended. The King, as
 “ hee himselfe thought thus blest with earthly fauours,
 “ doubted no misfortune, for he could see no way for him
 “ to mishap: nay if hee had beene wise, he might the more
 “ haue feared miserie; in that he was so fully pampered vp
 “ with felicitie. Fortune, yea fortune in fauouring him,
 made him most infortunate. Syren-like, hiding vnder mus-
 sicke, miserie; vnder pleasure, paine; vnder mirth, mourning:
 like

like the sugred honie-combe, which while a man toucheth, hee is stung with Bees. Shee presenteth faire shapes, which prooue but fading shadowes; shee proffereth mountaines, and perhaps keepeth promise: but the gaines of these golden mines, is losse and miserie. None rode on *Seianus* horse, which got not some mishap: none toucht the gold of *Tholossa*, whom some disaster chance likewise did not assaile: neither hath any bin aduanced by Fortune, which in time hath not bin crossed with some haplesse calamitie. These things the King found answerable vnto veritie, the issue whereof, brought no lesse vnto him, than the vtter ruine, and suddaine confusion of his kingdome. For *Rawciken* liuing in his court, noting (as I said before) *Eliosto*s entertainment by *Cleodora*, his more than ordinarie obseruation of dutie, her affectionate opinion of him, and his assiduate repaire vnto her lodging, and his long abode with her; gathered by these circumstances, how that the conuoy of their proceedings, was but for the obscuritie of affection, with whom beyond credit, it was most brutish, and out of measure vnreasonable.

Wherefore continuing his vigilant obseruations, in the ende he discovered the very secrecie of their attempts, to the great satisfaction of his blood-thirstie spirits. Nowe (quoth hee) since their sinnes are come to the ripenesse of their abomination, I vowe by that bright Lampe Heauens ornament, that speedie information shall bee giuen to the King, that so their wanton and lasciuious incontinencie, may bee liable to the punishing racke of iustices seueritie: and for this purpose, hee attending the benigne leisure of opportunitie, it chanced as *Amazias* two or three daies after walked towards the stable, for the viewe of his horse, that then the infortunate Prince, blinded with the folly of impetuous concupiscence, assailed his mother after the inordinate pleasures which haue beene heretofore sufficiently declared.

But their *Argus* which slept not at all, in a furious extasie posting to the king, presently conducted him to such a place,

where he was the perfect spectator of their most vicious & detested practises. The king hardly moderating the vehemency of his rage from breaking the doore vpon them, betooke himselfe to his closet, where beeing cumbered with cholerike cogitations, and perplexed with despitefull passions, inflamed with wrathful fury, he fel into these termes. Now (quoth he) I prooue by experience the saying of *Sophocles* to be true, that the man which hath many children shall neuer liue without some mirth, nor die without some sorrow, for if they be vertuous, he shall haue cause wherof to reioyce, if vicious, whereof to be sad; which saying by this spectacle I trie performed in my selfe: for I haue but one childe (which should haue beene the inheritour of my kingdome) I see so addicted vnto vanitie, that hee is a fretting corrasieue to my wounded heart. For what grieve is there more pinching? what crosse more pernicious? what paine more griping? what plague more combersome? yea, what trouble can torment me worse, than to see my sonne to haue consumed his time in ryot after this manner, following wilfully the fury of his owne frantike fancie. O that the date of his birth had beene the day of his buriall! or that by some sinister storme of fortune hee had beene stifled on his mothers knees, so that his vntimely death might haue preuented my ensuing sorrowes, and his future calamities: For I see that the yong frie will alwayes prooue olde frogs, that the crooked twig wil proue a crabbed tree, how that which is bred in the bone, will not easily out of the flesh, that hee which is carelesse in youth, will be lesse carefull in age, that
 “ where in prime of yeeres vice raigneth, there in mature
 “ age iniquitie beareth sway. Why *Amazias* if thou seest the sore, why doost thou not apply the salue? and if thou perceiuest the mischief, why doost thou not preuent it with a *sublimatum*? Take away the cause, and the effect faileth; if *Eliosfo* be the cause of thy ruth, cutte him off betimes, lest hee bring thee to ruine, better hadst thou want a sonne, than neuer want sorrow. Perhappes thou wilt suffer him so long till hee fall sicke of the father, and then hee will

will not onely seeke thy lands and possessions, but life and all, if thou in time prevent not his purpose : yea, and after thy death hee will be, through his lasciuious life, the ouerthrow of thy house, the consumer of thy kingdome, the wracke of thy common-weale, and the very man that shal bring the state of *Cyprus* to mischiefe and miserie. Sith then thy sonne is such a sincke of sorrowes, in-whose life lies hid a loathsome masse of wretched mishappes, cut him off as a gracelesse graft, vnworthy to growe out of such a Stocke. Alas, most miserable and lamentable case ! would to God (as I said) the Destinies had decreed his death in the swadling-cloths, or that the Fates had prescribed his end in his infancie; then should not I my selfe haue beene (as I will be) so vnnaturall, as to seeke the spoile of mine owne child; or more sauage than the brute beastes, in committing such crueltie.

Herevpon *Amazias* stumbling as fast as he could to his Peeres, reuealed vnto them the whole cause of his distresse, requiring their fauourable assistance in these his determinate proceedings. Who with rage incens'd, promising in what thing soeuer, their allegiance : hee commanded that his wife, and *Eliosto* should be carried to strait prison, vntill they heard further of his pleasure. The Guard vnwilling to lay their hands vpon their Queene and Prince, and yet fearing the Kings furie, went very sorrowfull to fulfill their charge. Comming to the Queenes lodging, they found her playing with her sonne, and other Ladies, at Cardes; vnto whom, with teares doing their message, *Eliosto* and *Cleodora* were astonished at such a hard censure; and finding their galled consciences sure aduocates to pleade in their cases, went to *Lymbo* most willingly: where with sighes and teares they past away the time till they might come to their triall. Especially *Cleodora*, who after shee had almost blubbered out her eies for griefe, fell at length into this passion. Infortunate *Cleodora*; and therefore infortunate, because thy sorrowes are more then thy yeares, and thy distresse too heauie for the prime of thy youth. Are the Heauens so vn-
iust,

Inſt, the Starres ſo diſmall, the Planets ſo iniurious, that they
 haue more contrarie oppoſitions, than fauourable aſpects?
 that their influence doth infuſe more preiudice, than they
 can inferre profit? Then no doubt, if their motions be ſo ma-
 ligne, *Saturne* conſpiring with all balefull ſignes, calculated
 the houre of thy birth full of diſaſter accidents. Ah *Cleodo-
 ra*, thou maiſt ſee, the birds that are hatched in winter, are
 nipt with euery ſtorme, ſuch as flie againſt the Sunne, are
 either ſcorched or blinded, and thoſe that repugne againſt
 nature, are euer croſſd by Fortune. Thy faithfull ſeruaunt
Lucilla foreſaw theſe euills, and warned thee by experience,
 thou reiecteſt her counſaile, and therefore art bitten with
 “ repentance: Such as looke not before they leape, oft fall
 “ into the ditch, and they that ſcorne admonition, can not
 “ poſſibly auoyd puniſhment. The yoong tygres followe
 the braying of their olde ſire, the tender fawnes chuſe their
 food by the old Bucke. Theſe brute beaſts, and without
 reaſon, ſtray not from the limites of nature; thou a woman
 and indued with reaſon, arte therefore thus ſorrowfull, be-
 cauſe thou haſt beene vnnaturall. Better haſt thou beene
 borne a Beggar than a Prince, ſo ſhouldeſt thou haue bride-
 led Fortune with want, where now ſhee ſporteth her ſelfe
 “ with thy plenty. Ah happy life, where poore thoughts,
 “ and meane deſires liue in ſecure content, not fearing for-
 “ tune becauſe too lowe. For fortune thou ſeeſt now *Cle-
 “ odora*, that Care is a companion to Honour, not to Po-
 “ uertie, that hie Cedars are fruſhed with tempeſts, when
 “ lowe ſhrubs are not toucht with the winde: pretious di-
 “ amonds are cutte with the file, when deſpiſed pearles lie
 “ ſafe in the ſands; *Delphos* is ſought by Princes, and not by
 “ Beggars, and Fortunes Altars ſmoake with Kings pre-
 “ ſents, not with poore mens giſtes. Happy are they *Cleo-
 “ dora*, that curſe Fortune for contempt, not for feare; and
 “ may wiſh they were, not ſorrow they haue beene. Thou
 arte a Princeſſe, and yet a priſoner, borne to the one by diſ-
 cent, aſſigned to the other by deſpight; accused not with-
 out cauſe, and therefore oughteſt to die without care; for pa-
 tience

“ tience is a shield against fortune. Ah but infamy galleth
“ vnto death, and liueth after death : Report is plumed
“ with Times feathers, and Enuy oftentimes soundeth
“ Fames trumpet; thy detested incest shall flie in the aire,
“ and thy knowne vertues shall lie hid in the earth : One
“ moale staineth a whole face, and what is once spotted
“ with infamy, can hardly be worne out with Time. Die
then *Cleodora, Cleodora* die; for if the gods should say, thou
arte guiltlesse, yet Enuy would heare the gods, but neuer
belecue the gods. After that, she had many sighs, and sobs,
& most bitter teares, passd ouer many melancholy thoghts;
one while seeing death ready to execute the last part of sor-
row, another while seeing sorrow increasings; now looking
towards heauen, and anone seeing the kinde of hell that she
liued in; now reuiuing with a hope of some vnlooked for
happinesse, and by and by stroke dead with the despaire of
all hope almost whatsoeuer. In fine, so beset with sorrowe,
as she had almost no thought of comfort, in the midst of all
this misery, throwing herselfe vpon her bed, after shee had
laine a while, musing vpon her incomparable crosses, shee
tooke penne, and incke, and paper, and as a woman halfe
bestraught, wrote this issue of her humour, being indeede
a fancie which that learned Author N. B. hath dignified
with respect.

*Among the grones, the woods and thickes,
The bushes, brambles, and the briers,
The shrubbes, the stubbes, the thornes, and prickes,
The ditches, plasches, lakes and miers.*

*Where fish nor fowle, nor bird nor beast,
Nor living thing may take delight,
Nor reasons rage may looke for rest,
Till heart be dead of hatefull spight.*

*Within the cane of cares unknowne,
Where hope of comfort all decays,
Let me with sorrow sit alone,
In dolefull thoughts to end my dayes.*

Eliosto Libidinoso.

*And when I heare the stormes arise,
That troubled Ghosts doe leave the granes;
With hellish sounds of horrors cries,
Let me goe looke out of my cage.*

*And when I feele what paines they bide,
That doe the greatest torments prone,
Then let not me the sorrow hide,
That I haue sufferd by my lone.*

*Where losses, crosses, care and grieve,
With ruyntull, psetull, hatefull hate,
Without all hope of haps reliefe,
Due tugging and teare the heart to naught:
But sigh, and say, and sing, and sweare,
It is too much for one to beare.*

When shee had ended thus her passion, I meane in writing, carelesly shee left it in her chamber; where the Iaylor finding it false on the floore, as a thing of little account; when he had perused and taken a true copie of it, he secretly lost it where he found it: thinking that if the King knewe her extremities, he would somewhat appease his furie, and release her from prison. *Cleodora* was not more distressed with dolour, than poore *Eliosto* was combred with care, to see so strange a chance, and so suddaine a change; that he, who of late was a royall Prince, was now a distressed captive; that his libertie was turned to fetters; his dignitie, to miserie; and his happie state, to a most hellish condition; that after floods of teares which fell from his chrystal eyes, he burst forth into these tearmes. Alas (quoth hee) what humane creature was euer driuen into such doubtfull calamities? what Prince was euer perplexed with such dolefull passions? what man was euer crossed with such adueritie? nay, what wight euer was clogged with the like miserie? haue the spightfull Destinies decreed my destruction, or the sinister Planets conspired my bitter ouerthrowe? doth peruerse Fortune meane to make mee a mirroure of mutabilitie, or is this the reward that *Cupid* bestowes vpon his Clients?

is euery one that doth fancie, maimed with the like misfortune? or is Loue alwaies accompanied with such haplesse lucke? Alas, no, for their Loue is lawfull, and mine lewd and lasciuious; their fancie is fixed vpon vertue, and mine vpon vanity; they make their match with equality, and I my market with my fathers election: so that I am like in choosing such chaffer, to chop and change, and liue by the losse; yea to buy repentance at an vnreasonable rate. But now I see " the Sunne beeing at the highest, declineth; the Sea beeing " at the full tide, ebbeth; calme continueth not long with- " out a storme, neither is happines had long without mour- " ning, blisse without woe, weale without heavinesse, mirth " without sorrow. For who of late so floated in the floods of prosperitie as I, which now by the sinister meanes of frowning Fortune, am sowled in the seas of oppression: & exalted of late to the highest degree of felicitie, am now driuen to the greatest extremitie of euill; of late puffed vp with prosperitie, and now pushed downe with aduersitie; yea of late placed in Paradise, and now plunged in perplexitie. Oh *Eliosto*, if thy frindes fatherly precepts might haue perswaded thee, if their aduices had beene thy aduertisements, and thou hadst carefully kept their counsels; then by their forewarning, thou hadst beene fore armed against all mishap and miserie. The force of fickle fancie had not then given thee the foile; Loue had not so lightly procured thy losse, nor the painted shewe of beauty had so soone procured thy destruction. With that taking a Lute in his hand, vpon a deep consideration of his former follies, and present fortunes, hee sung this Roundelay, which it seemes his dignitie had borrowed of a worthy writer.

Eliostoes Roundelay.

*Sitting and sighing in my secret muse,
As once Apollo did, surpris'd with Loue.
Noting the slipperie waies young yeares doe use,
Whose fond affects the prime of youth doth moue:
With his owne teares, despairing I doe crye,
Woe worth the jantis and allies of mine eye.*

Elioſto Libidinoſo.

*When wanton age, the bloſſome of my time,
 Drew me to gaze vpon the gorgeous ſight,
 That Beautie pompous in her higheſt prime,
 Preſents to tangle men with ſweet delight:
 Then with deſpairing teares my thoughts doe crie,
 Woe worth the faults and follies of mine eie.*

*When I ſuruaid the riches of her lookes,
 Where-out flew flames of neuer quencht deſire,
 Wherein lay baies, that Venus ſnares with hookes,
 Or where proud Cupid ſate, all arm'd with fire:
 Then toucht with Love, my inward ſoule did crie,
 Woe worth the faults and follies of mine eie.*

*The milke white Galaxia of her browe,
 Where Love doth daunce Laoltaes of his ſkill,
 Like to the Temple where true Lovers vow,
 To follow what ſhall pleaſe their miſtreſſe will:
 Noting her Luorie front, now doe I crie,
 Woe worth the faults and follies of mine eie.*

*Her face like ſiluer Luna in her ſhine,
 All tainted through with bright vermillian ſtaines,
 Like Lillies dips in Bacchus choiceſt wine,
 Powdred and inter-ſeam'd with azur'd vaines:
 Delighting in their pride, now may I crie,
 Woe worth the faults and follies of mine eie.*

*The golden myers that checkers in the day,
 Inferiour to the trefſes of her haire,
 Her Amber trammels did my heart diſmay,
 That when I looke, I durſt not ouer-dare:
 Proud of her pride, now I am forc't to crie,
 Woe worth the faults and follies of mine eie.*

*Theſe fading Beauties drew me on to ſin,
 Natures great riches fram'd my bitter ruth,*

Theſe

*These were the traps that Loue did snare me in,
Oh these, and none but these haue wrackt my youth!
Mis-led by them, I may despairing crie,
Woe worth the faults and follies of mine eie.*

*By these I slip from Vertues holy tracke,
That leads into the highest chrystall spheare,
By these I fell to vanitie and wracke,
And as a man forlorne with sinne and feare:
Despaire and sorrow doth constraime me crie,
Woe worth the fautes and follies of mine eie.*

After that *Eliosto* had vttered this Sonnet in the bitterness of minde, word was brought him by certaine Officers, that the King hauing throughly canuased, with his Counsell, the notorious dislike of his incestuous transgressions, hath found it vn pardonable; and so my Lord (quoth they) you must prepare your selfe for death, for to morrowes light must consummate the period both of yours, and *Cleodoraes* daies.

I embrace the sentence (quoth *Eliosto*) most willingly: and now thou *Saturnes* blacke sonne, do thy worst; for I am altogether vnable to sustaine any longer so grieuous a burthen as I do. I perceiue that the more with patience I strue to allay the heate of my exulcerate torments, the more the smothered cindars reuiue in quenchlesse flames, flames that *Atna*-like boyle in my breast, resembling the horrors of mount *Chibelloes* fiery rage, which vomites millions of vapours, and dartes heapes of sulphre from the glowing centre. In a word, when the darke night had over-spread the earth with her blacke mantle, *Amazias* ouercharged with sorrow, could take no rest, but passing the time in brinish teares, lamented the exceeding great folly of his sonne, in that hee woulde after so licentious a manner so desperately precipitate himselfe into daunger; but neyther the ardent

perswasions of his Nobles, nor yet fatherly affection could diuert him from his bloody determination. The next morning, the people leauing their lodgings betimes, went to the place where the execution should bee, and there provided themselves an easie rowme without the railes; for within them none might stand, (the Nobles and their necessarie Attendants excepted:) with them infinit troupes of the assembled strangers, hasted to preuent *Tuan*, who shaking his dewie lockes on the mountaines, posted from the watric cabbin of *Nereus*, to bee an earely viewer of these tragicall spectacles. But ere he had measured a tenth proportion of his daily pace, the Peeres suted in long sable robes, with wreathes of *Cypres* branches, consecrated to *Cyparissus*, encompassing their temples, came forward, and with them other inferiour assistants, clad in their mourning garments, each attending vpon his seuerall charge. Next these came *Eliosto* and *Cleodora*, consisting of the fairest of both kindes, flourishin in the prime of their youth, and in the pride of their beautie, attired all in long blacke ornaments trailing after them, wearing on their heads, garlands of odoriferous flowers. Who beeing arriued vpon the scaffold, after the finishing of the ceremoniall rites, yielded vp their liues vnto the fatall stroke of Iustice.

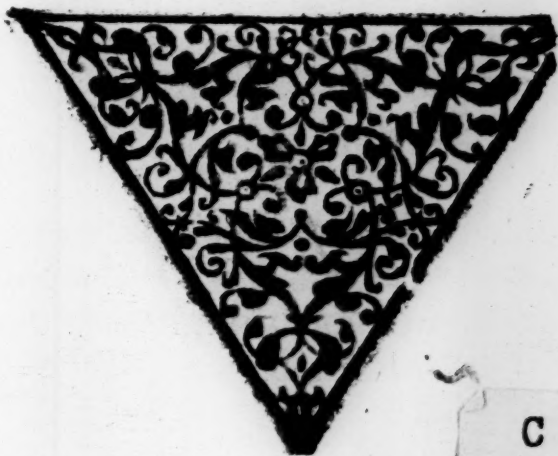
These two patients beeing thus executed; during the time for the preparation of rich and solemne funerals, they were for a publike obseruation brought into the base court of the Palace, to the great grieve of all the beholders. After this, the King cauled a royall and sumptuous furniture to be celebrated for their obsequies, and with such honour as their dignities required; whom burying in the conuent of Saint *Lawrence*, he erected a stately *Mausoleum* to bee the common bedde of those bodies; whose hearts (when they were aline) were so firmly conioyned together. And lest there should be left any thing vnperfected in this tragical accident, *Lucilla* for the vnspeakable losse of her mistresse, did
drowne

drowne her selfe, for whom a stately bath was prepared in
ouer burning *Phlegeton*.

The Conclusion.

SVch was the successe of this rare oft-thwarted loue,
which my ouer bold pen hath presumed thus rudely to
descipher. If any *decorum* be omitted, or *indecorum* commit-
ted, I cannot otherwise excuse it (curteous Readers) then by
your fauours; which will, I hope, beare with such imperfe-
ctions, and not impute it to mine owne desert, which was
loath to pollish a toie, whereon I neuer bestowed
more labour, than sometimes an idle
houre of recreation.

Gratias Deo uni & trino.



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